

ÉDITION DE LUXE

No. 958



APRIL 7, 1888

# THE GRAPHIC.

AN

ILLUSTRATED

WEEKLY

NEWSPAPER.



\*STRAND\*

190

\*LONDON\*

PRICE NINEPENCE







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AN ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

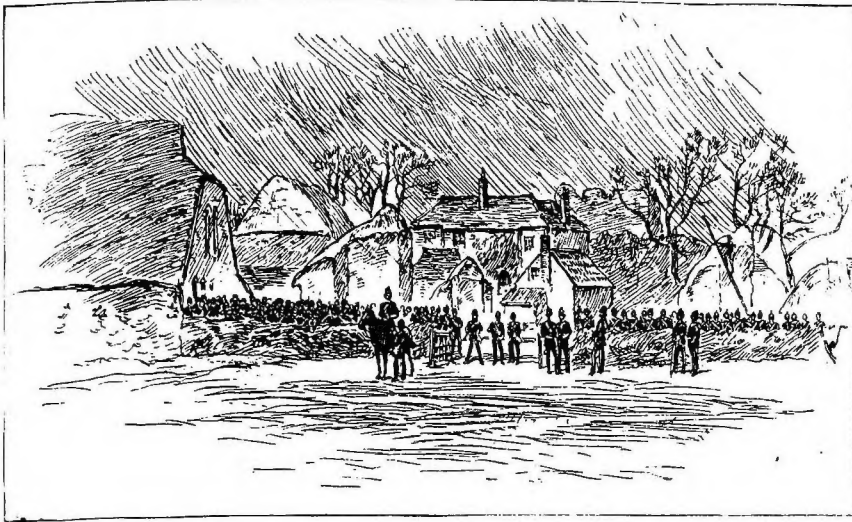
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ÉDITION  
DE LUXE

SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1888

WITH EXTRA  
SUPPLEMENT

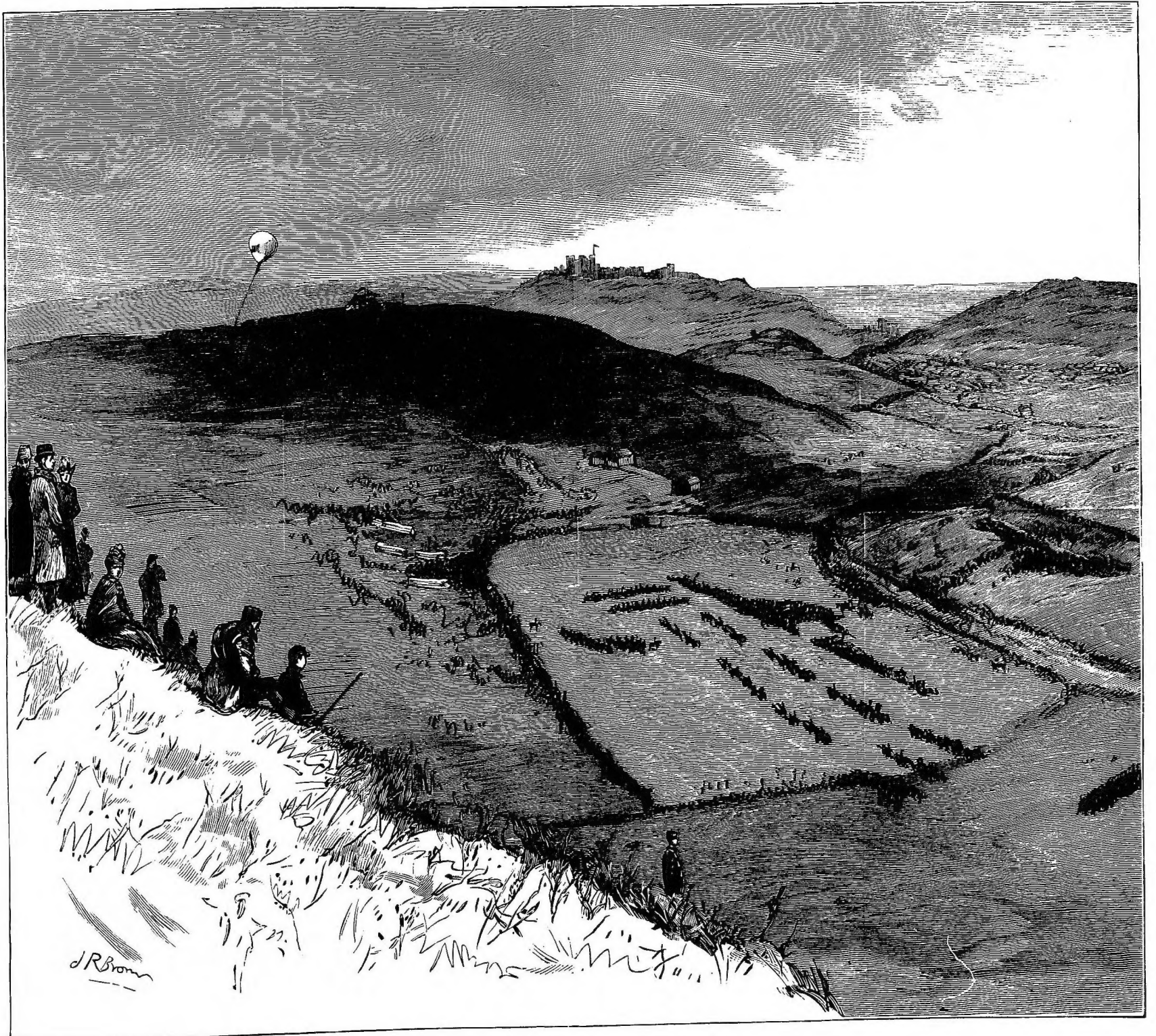
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ARTILLERY RESERVES WAITING TO COME INTO ACTION



THE END OF THE BATTLE



BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF THE MARCH-PAST

THE EASTER VOLUNTEER MANŒUVRES AT DOVER



## Topics of the Week

**FRANCE AND HER MINISTRIES.**—The fall of M. Tirard's Ministry attracted so much attention mainly because it happened immediately after the compulsory retirement of General Boulanger. The world could not help connecting the two events, and regarding the one as in some way a consequence of the other. In ordinary circumstances M. Tirard's resignation would have been taken as almost a matter of course. When he accepted the Premiership no one expected that he would be long in power. Few, indeed, supposed that he would be able to retain his place until the end of March. He was a Minister on sufferance, with an accidental majority on which he could not depend; and he himself was well aware that he would have to give way to a successor the moment it might please the Extreme Right and the Extreme Left to combine against him. Unfortunately, it is impossible to predict for the new Premier a more prosperous term of office. He is an able man, with the highest qualities of the best class of his countrymen; and M. de Freycinet and M. Goblet, his principal colleagues, have had experience that ought to enable them to act warily in the difficult positions they have been courageous enough to assume. But the new Ministry, notwithstanding M. Floquet's confident tone in the declaration read by him in the Chamber and the Senate, is not likely to have a coherent policy; and, if it had, it could not look for support to any party capable of upholding it against all possible combinations. Like all the Republican Ministries that have preceded it, it will be forced to "trim;" and probably in a little while the Chamber will get tired of it, and give it notice to quit. The leaders of French parties are much blamed for their factiousness and selfishness, and the accusations brought against them are in the main true. But the real explanation of the present confusion is that the country itself does not know what it wants. If the constituencies would elect a homogeneous majority of some kind, there would be as much political stability in France as in England. This they either cannot or will not do. It is scarcely credible that the people will be foolish enough to cut the knot by calling General Boulanger to supreme power; but it is certain that, until they arrive at a more or less definite decision as to the nature of the Government by which they wish to be ruled, they will be irritated and humiliated by seeing a constant succession of phantom Ministries. The majority of the nation seem to have faith in the Republic; but whether the Republic is to be Radical or moderately Liberal or Conservative is a question to which no clear answer has yet been given.

**THE VOLUNTEER REVIEWS.**—Even those who most vehemently opposed the substitution of several reviews for one on Easter Monday are forced to admit that, from an educational point of view, the change is altogether advantageous. The Volunteers who took part in the various evolutions last Monday cannot fail to have acquired some useful practical lessons in the art of war. There may have been tactical blunders of a more or less grievous kind, but is not this generally the case even in real campaigns? Then, too, it has to be remembered that the critics who dilate on these blemishes are under a certain amount of compulsion to show how much better they would have managed matters had they been in command. They have the reputations of experts to support, and how can that be better done, whether in war, or Art, or literature, than by picking holes in the performances of others? After all, however, they have not pointed out any grave defects in our Citizen Army, while on the other hand they bear willing witness to the excellent spirit of the men, to their improved discipline, and to their marching capabilities. It is neither to be expected nor, perhaps, to be desired that the Volunteers should equal troops of the Line in all that goes to make the ideal soldier. But the country may rest satisfied that it possesses in these auxiliaries an immensely valuable force for defensive purposes—a force worth every farthing that it costs the nation, and a good deal more. What seems now chiefly wanting is not better drill or discipline, but the provision of such appliances and organisation as are needed to enable the Volunteers to take the field at short notice. Easter Monday comes but once a year, and they have plenty of time to prepare for it. But an enemy may some day steal upon us like a thief in the night, and it appears just open to doubt whether the Volunteers would be ready to give him a warm reception on landing.

**EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY.**—No one can deny that the much-maligned Tories are adventuring boldly into the paths of Radicalism—Radicalism, that is, of the wholesome, old-fashioned type. The Employers' Liability Act of 1880 has been less successful than was expected, because workmen had the option of contracting themselves out of its provisions. Some may say, Why should they be so foolish as to act thus? The answer is that the influence of an employer is very potent; human nature is sanguine, and does not readily realise the likelihood of bodily injury; and moreover a general impression existed, in many cases well founded, that an employer would voluntarily bestow adequate compensation on a workman who, in the course of his avocation,

suffered hurt through no fault of his own. Unfortunately, however, all employers are not so generous as this, otherwise there would have been no need for the Act of 1880. The new Bill which the Home Secretary has introduced makes several important changes in the measure of which Parliament approved eight years ago. Hereafter a workman will be forbidden to contract himself out of the Act unless it can be shown that he is satisfactorily insured in lieu of this provision, and the employer will be responsible for the maintenance of this insurance. Two other noteworthy clauses in the Bill extend its provisions to railway servants and seamen. As regards liability to bodily injury or loss of life, these are two of the most hazardous occupations which men can follow, and if they can be rendered less hazardous by placing a more stringent responsibility on employers, considerable advantage will accrue. Among a certain class of railway servants, such as plate-layers and shunters, the casualties are appallingly large, and although, in most cases, the injury is due to some carelessness on the part of the men themselves, employers will, when the Act comes into force, for the sake of their own pockets endeavour to keep this tendency to carelessness under strict control.

**M. BRATIANO.**—Roumania is a long way off, and Englishmen would be much pleased if they never had any occasion to trouble themselves about her affairs. As long, however, as we retain any interest in the Eastern Question, it will be impossible for us to neglect wholly what goes on at Bucharest. At the present moment the Roumanians are much excited about the fall of a Minister who has been in power for twelve years, and who is admitted to be by far the ablest statesman in the country. Fortunately, M. Bratiano's dismissal from office has nothing whatever to do with questions of foreign policy. With regard to these questions Roumanian politicians are practically united. It is just possible that if Russia pledged herself to reward Roumania for help in war by the cession of Bessarabia, a Russo-Roumanian alliance might be concluded. But the Russian Government has no intention of giving any such pledge; and the Roumanian people have an unconquerable suspicion that if Austria were defeated in a great struggle with Russia they themselves would be quickly absorbed by the victorious Power. Hence they are firmly resolved that in all great crises their action shall be determined by the counsels addressed to them, not from St. Petersburg, but from Vienna. No definite alliance with Austria seems to have been concluded, but an understanding clear enough for all practical purposes has certainly been arrived at. This understanding will, of course, be maintained by M. Bratiano's successor, and no doubt he himself will soon have fresh opportunities of strengthening it, for the new Cabinet has little vitality, and the return of the defeated Minister to office cannot be long delayed. M. Bratiano's offence is that he has constantly used unfair means in the rural districts to secure a mechanical majority. His present experience may be of service to him by convincing him that in the position of Prime Minister he would place his authority on a more solid basis by abandoning intrigue, and trusting absolutely to the free working of constitutional methods.

**THE RESULTS OF BY-ELECTIONS.**—"Brother, brother, we were both in the wrong!" now may Unionists and Separatists say to one another. Have they not been severally bragging at any time during the last twelve months that their party was gaining ground in the country? Even Mr. Gladstone himself, old Parliamentary hand as he is, was deceived by taking too much for granted. Had he only compiled the polls of the two parties at all by-elections since the General Election of 1886, and compared the results with those at that contest, he would have discovered that no appreciable change had come over public opinion. His party has gained, it is true, two or three seats on balance, but the returns of polling at elections since the Salisbury Cabinet took office show a fractional superiority for the Unionists. It is the same whether you take the whole period or divide it into halves; the constituencies appear to be of practically the same mind as when challenged by Mr. Gladstone to deliver their verdict on the Home Rule Question. May it not be hoped, then, that somewhat less account will be taken of isolated by-elections for the future? They are utterly misleading as tests of political opinion in the aggregate, except when—as happened previous to Mr. Gladstone's downfall in 1874—a number of them in succession show a notable transfer of votes from the one party to the other. There is nothing of that sort apparent at present; the Unionists gain a little at one place, the Separatists at another, but on counting up their winnings and losses the difference is too slight to give any clue to the future. Nor do we doubt that were a General Election to take place this summer, the result would be very much the same as on the last occasion of the sort. It is a grand tug of war between the Ins and the Outs, and of both it may be said that they hold their own, and nothing more.

**ITALY AND ABYSSINIA.**—After all, it seems as if the Italian Expedition to Abyssinia is likely to have a peaceable termination, and that the troops may return home without gratifying their desire to avenge the slaughter of Dogali. The Negus, it is true, has not openly accepted the terms of peace, dreading, no doubt, the loss of prestige which he would incur by submitting to the claims of a foreign invader. Nevertheless, his troops are in full retreat, and he has re-

leased a number of Mussulman prisoners. Those who really wish well to Italy will not regret this change in the aspect of affairs. With all her material advantages, Italy is essentially a poor country, and she would be much better employed in developing her domestic resources, and endeavouring to improve the condition of her poverty-stricken peasantry, than in indulging in warlike enterprises either in Europe or elsewhere. Her army and navy constitute a grievous burden on a heavily-taxed people, and are far more powerful than her real necessities demand. The chief result of this undue strength is that she is assiduously courted by the German militarists, who see in her a convenient factor for the furtherance of their own schemes. This attitude gratifies the ambition of the Italian people, but it is very questionable whether it conduces to their real interests. To return to Abyssinia. Supposing after all the war should go on, What next? If the Negus is wise, he will not attempt a second advance, but will draw the foe inland, trusting that the scorching heats, the tropical rains, and the difficulty of maintaining a long line of communications will cause the Italians to abandon their enterprise. Very possibly, however, the Negus will not be wise, but will resume his ambitious tactics, will fight a pitched battle, and suffer a crushing defeat. Then Abyssinia will fall into a state of anarchy, as was the case after the collapse of King Theodore. If then the Italians resolve to push inland, and undertake the administration of the distracted kingdom, they will find that they have another Algeria on their hands, which for years to come will severely tax their resources, both in men and money.

**A STUART EXHIBITION.**—Most people who care for Art and History were pleased to hear that there is to be a Stuart Exhibition next winter in London. The Stuarts gave our forefathers much trouble, and, partly for that very reason, everything relating to them has a peculiar interest. They violated all the conditions of public liberty, but almost all of them had, at least, the merit of being Sovereigns of strongly-marked individuality. Even James I., as the late Mark Pattison showed in his brilliant book on Casaubon, deserves credit for his sincere, if somewhat grotesquely expressed, love of learning. As for Charles I., few connoisseurs of his time had as fine a taste for Art, or as accurate a knowledge of the distinctive qualities of the greatest artists. Charles II., whom Professor Masson calls "a coffin-faced lout," was in reality as clever and witty as he was unscrupulous. His brother is the only one of the Stuarts for whom it is hard to say a good word; he seems to have been a thoroughly stupid man, remarkable only for the obstinacy that so often accompanies stupidity. If we go back to those of the Stuarts who reigned only in Scotland, we find that without a single exception they were rulers who, with all their faults, had a certain charm of character. One of them, James I. of Scotland, was a poet who, even if he had not worn a crown, would have held an important place in the history of English literature. Fortunately, there are admirable portraits of many of the Stuarts; and the Exhibition will give the public an opportunity of seeing some of the best work of Van Dyck, Jamesone, Lely, and Kneller, to say nothing of the masterpieces of the English miniature painters of the seventeenth century. Autograph letters, coins, medals, seals, and a large number of other objects will be shown; so that the Exhibition ought to be in its own way as attractive as any that has been seen for many a day in England.

**BUDGET CRITICISMS.**—Now that time has been afforded for a more careful analysis of Mr. Goschen's financial proposals, it becomes pretty clear that a good many battles will have to be fought before the scheme passes the Parliamentary ordeal. The cart and pleasure-horse taxes have already drawn forth quite a chorus of discontent from both classes and masses; the owners of race-horses are up in arms at the profanity of placing a duty on their pets; the Stock Exchange growls that the stamp on bonds to bearer will cause a lot of trouble and confusion; and petty horse-dealers accuse Mr. Goschen of playing into the hands of the big men of their profession. He counted, no doubt, on having to face something of a storm; no Chancellor of the Exchequer, let alone such a shrewd one, could expect the victims of his financial ingenuity to relish the additional taxation. It is not in human nature to enjoy the transfer of so much more money from one's private purse to the Treasury, even when required to launch a great scheme of local government. The most to be expected of a Chancellor when compelled to impose fresh taxation is that he shall place it on those best able to bear the burden. Has Mr. Goschen complied with this governing condition? In the main, he has, but the cart and pleasure-horse taxes, while fair enough in principle, will operate harshly, it is to be feared, in practice. Country clergymen and medical practitioners, small tradesmen, van and car owners, coal vendors, and others who are compelled to keep either riding nags or light carts, will feel the pressure of Mr. Goschen's hand, gentle as he believes it to be. Perhaps, however, these proposals can be amended in Committee so as to deprive them of their present burdensome character. They might be advantageously replaced by an *ad valorem* stamp duty on Stock Exchange contract notes, an innovation which would bring in a round sum to the Treasury without hurting any one except the small "bucket-shop" keepers.



**INDOOR v. OUTDOOR PAUPERS.**—A correspondent of the *Times* hits on a blot in the County Government Bill, which will, no doubt, attract Mr. Ritchie's careful attention. One of the clauses enacts that a sum of 4*d.* a day, or 2*s.* 4*d.* a week, shall be paid to local authorities, out of the Imperial Exchequer, towards the maintenance of each indoor pauper. This provision, if carried out, will tend greatly to discourage one of the most legitimate and innocuous forms of outdoor relief. There are numerous aged couples, who, earning a few shillings by other means, can keep out of the workhouse, and preserve their little homes, if the parish allows them half-a-crown a week each. And, putting aside all sentiment for the poor old souls themselves, the parish actually saves 10*d.* a week by the transaction, as it would cost 5*s.* 10*d.* to keep the aged pair in the "house." But, if this new provision comes into force, guardians will be tempted, for the sake of lessening the local rates, to insist that all applicants for relief shall become indoor paupers, as cut of the 2*s.* 11*d.* per head which their maintenance costs, the local authorities will only have to defray 7*d.* To us this clause seems fraught with mischief, and we hope it will be jealously scrutinised in Committee.

**AN ART SCHOOL IN WHITECHAPEL.**—Mr. Ashbee, of Toynbee Hall, is working hard to establish in Whitechapel a technical school, the object of which shall be to teach craftsmen the art of "making beautiful things." The teaching, if the scheme can be accomplished, will include wood-carving, turning, metal-working, leather-stamping, glass-painting, modelling, decoration, designing, and other branches of the technical Arts. We heartily wish Mr. Ashbee success, for there can be no doubt that the training which he wishes to give is one of the greatest needs of the present day. In an interesting lecture delivered lately at Toynbee Hall, Mr. Holman Hunt spoke with much earnestness of the fact that there are few indications of cultivated taste among the mass of our people. Walking through the streets of almost any Continental town, one finds innumerable signs that even the common folk, who cannot claim, in any wide sense, to be well educated, have a sincere, and almost instinctive, liking for decorative workmanship. Once upon a time it was the same in England, but now a love for what is beautiful is confined to particular classes, and even among them it is not always very deeply rooted. How can we expect to have a really great artistic movement as long as the world of Art is supposed to be a realm into which only a few can hope to penetrate? In all the splendid periods of artistic achievement painters and sculptors have been supported and encouraged in their labour by the consciousness that its results would appeal to an appreciative and sympathetic public. Every one ought to be able to produce something that is pleasant to look at, and if our system of education were sound, one of the principal objects would be to cultivate in young people the latent capacity of doing the kind of work in which Mr. Ashbee proposes to give instruction. His school may be safely started if the modest sum of 150*l.* a year for two years is provided. The object is so admirable that we hope he will have little difficulty in securing the means of attaining it.

**THE ARMENIANS AND THE BERLIN TREATY.**—The Armenian Patriotic Association must possess the gift of being thankful for very small mercies indeed, if they really feel grateful to Lord Salisbury for his reply to their touching memorial. In this, they drew the Premier's attention to the fact that the Porte has systematically ignored and continues to ignore the clause of the Berlin Treaty by which Turkey entered into an undertaking to reform the administration of Armenia. From that day to this, not one single thing has been done to comply with either the letter or the spirit of this covenant; Armenia remains as scandalously misgoverned as before the Treaty was drafted. Yet the clause in question has precisely the same authority as a part of international law as those which provide for the government of Bulgaria. What has Lord Salisbury to say then to this flagrant contempt of court? His reply is, in effect, that Great Britain cannot act alone to secure the fulfilment of the Treaty by Turkey; it is a matter for all the signatory Powers to consider and take action upon. Irrefragable logic, but it begs the question. Has Great Britain ever sought to move the Powers to give the wretched Armenians a helping hand? Has she interested herself as much on their behalf as for the Bulgarians? If so, we cannot remember to have seen any mention of this philanthropic intervention in diplomatic blue books. The simple truth is that Armenia happens to be a long way from Constantinople, Bulgaria only a comparatively short distance; were their geographical positions reversed, the Powers would require little moving to compel the Porte to perform its covenants. And what will be the inevitable result of its ostrich-like policy? This; that the very next time Russia swoops down on the "sick man," Armenia will be severed from the Ottoman Empire, with the entire approval of her long-persecuted inhabitants.

**HAWKERS AND PEDLARS.**—Mr. Goschen's critics seem to have muddled up hawkers and pedlars, who are, officially regarded, two totally different classes of the mercantile community. The hawkers employ horses, and at present pay a

heavy tax (4*l.* a year) to the Excise. Whatever the shortcomings of these persons may be, they are neither mendicants nor vagabonds. The pedlars merely take out a police-licence of 5*s.* a year. Judging from London experience alone, if everybody who offers goods for sale from door to door holds one of these licences, the police authorities must net a round sum of money annually. Now, as a rule—we say it advisedly—these itinerant merchants are an awful nuisance, especially to small householders who keep either only one servant or none at all. They take care to make their calls when the male folk of the house are away at their work, their series of single knocks keeps the mistress or her maid continually on the trot, and if she refuses to buy they frequently shoot out a volley of abuse as they leave. Sometimes, if they get their foot inside the door, they flatly refuse to go until the lady has seen their merchandise, and sometimes she is actually coerced into buying in order to get rid of them. Surely the police should be empowered to exercise some discrimination in the issuing of these licences. It should not be a question of money only, but of character. We trust that nothing we have said above will be held to apply to the regular costermongers, who are a useful body of tradesmen, though often unduly strong-lunged in bellowing out their wares. But the pushing young man, or pushing middle-aged man, who hammers at your door, insists on selling you something you don't want, and then slangs you if you decline, is, we repeat, an unmitigated nuisance.



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**TO LITERARY CONTRIBUTORS.**—In order to save trouble and disappointment the Editor begs to state that he has already on hand an ample supply of both LONG and SHORT STORIES for a considerable time to come.

**NOTICE.**—With this Number is issued an EXTRA FOUR-PAGE SUPPLEMENT, entitled "HOW I FARED AT THE EASTER REVIEW."

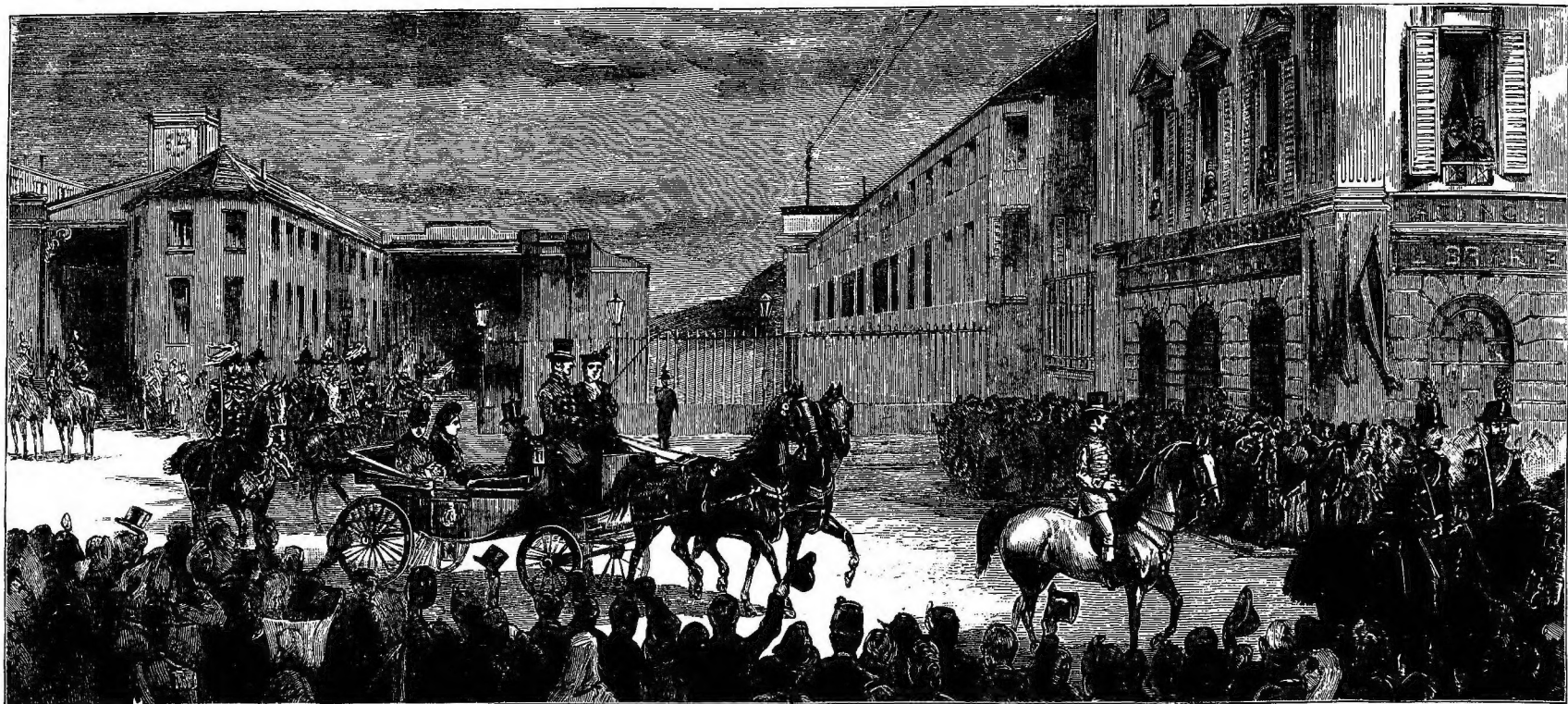


### THE EASTER VOLUNTEER MANŒUVRES

THE Volunteer manœuvres of this Easter have presented few points of novelty, nor do they in any wise mark an epoch in the history of the Force. With the one exception of the Cyclists' Corps, which was subjected to a most severe trial (details of which are given in a separate article), there was no new feature in the arrangements, which were carried out entirely on the lines of the manœuvres of the last four or five years. Dover, Eastbourne, Portsmouth, and Aldershot were the chief centres of Volunteer activity, while the Volunteers of Cheshire and Lancashire had field days of their own on a small scale. As to the net result of the four days' instruction, it may be said that, on the whole, it was considerable. The marching columns which are organised on the Friday and Saturday before Easter are a truly valuable means of instructing our citizen soldiers in the duties they would have to perform in time of war. Less may be said in favour of the field day of Easter Monday, though even this, in some at any rate of its features, is not without instruction for officers and men. The whole conditions under which the Easter operations are carried out are so artificial that there is little wonder if they bear but a far-off resemblance to the actual operations of war. From ridicule of the Volunteers popular opinion has now passed to the other extreme, and the Force is in great danger of injury from over-praise. It will be long before it can be depended on as a trustworthy auxiliary to the regular forces of the country. "The Battle of Dorking" was written a long time ago, and since then the Volunteer force has advanced in organisation and discipline by leaps and bounds; yet were some of the picked troops of France or Germany to be landed on these shores to-morrow, who can doubt that the result of a battle between them and our citizen soldiers would still be the same as that described by General Chesney? The Easter manœuvres are invaluable chiefly in showing us our defects. For example, we have for the Volunteer forces of the country neither transport nor commissariat. We have no arrangements for moving our troops, and no arrangements for feeding them; and how disastrous it would be to wait for the approach of war before attempting to organise these important branches of the service, a dozen instances in modern history bitterly testify. In the pigeon-holes of the War Office it is believed there are complete plans for the mobilisation of the Volunteer force in case of threatened invasion. But who is to know if these plans are workable now? Who is to answer for it that they would work smoothly if put into practice in a hurry? Two such authorities as General Hamley and Mr. Archibald Forbes have both grave doubts as to the practicability of utilising at short notice the whole strength of the Volunteers. What we really want here to test the true value of our Volunteers is some large attempt at mobilisation, like that recently carried out by General Buller when Minister of War, or even something in the manner of the long-abandoned Autumn manœuvres. All this, however, means money, much money; and the taxpayer cannot, or will not, see the necessity for it. So we must at present go on as we are, trusting to the chapter of accidents to extricate us from any serious crisis demanding the exertion of all our strength.

It is impossible here, and it would but weary our readers, to describe at length all the operations of the three days of Easter (for Sunday is always a day of rest) around Dover, Eastbourne, Portsmouth, and Aldershot. To these operations our daily contemporaries have devoted columns, and even pages; and though these accounts are written, in several cases at least, by the most able war-correspondents of the day—men whose experience extends from the Crimea to the Soudan—we venture to say that they are almost entirely devoid of attraction to the general public, and that even the Volunteers themselves read them with but feeble interest. Nor in saying this, do we mean for a moment to detract from the praise which is due to the energetic and experienced men who follow the operations of our civilian soldiers. The accounts of the battles are admirably done; but it requires the genius of the great commander combined with the style of the great writer to command more than the most limited interest for technical descriptions of military manœuvres, of attacks and counter-attacks, of skirmishes and retreats, of cavalry charges and artillery volleys. Briefly put, the general idea governing the operations of Friday and Saturday around Dover was that an invading army had landed at Dymchurch or somewhere in the neighbourhood, and was pushing forward towards London, detaching a force to invest Dover. Hearing of this a rapidly mobilised force was sent down from London to repel the invader and relieve Dover. It was assumed that the defending force could reach Ashford, and there detain unmolested by the enemy, and near Ashford the manœuvres therefore began. Colonel Methuen, as of old, had command of the marching columns, and generally superintended the operations. The defenders from London were opposed by a small body of local corps from Folkestone (including some yeomanry, who did excellent service), and by detachments of the Oxford and Cambridge Volunteers, who came down in the same trains, and were sent on in advance to act as the rear-guard of the retiring army. This handful of men, with their tiny cavalry contingent, gave excellent practice to the marching columns advancing to repel the invader. They were admirably handled, and by their nimble movements from place to place they succeeded in impressing the defending force with the idea of large numbers. A sergeant and a few files of men in one case, and a small body of yeomanry in another, caused the halt of one of the brigades into which the defenders were divided. Several times the defenders had to halt and deploy in the fields, only to find that their active enemy, after drawing a few volleys, was away to harass another column. It was pretty practice; and recalled the dramatic incident of the Desert march in the Soudan, when a handful of men, being moved rapidly round the hills, firing repeatedly, gave the Arabs the idea that a large force was menacing their position, and so caused them to retreat. In all these operations the roads were in a dreadful condition. Not for ten years has there been so unsatisfactory an Easter as far as weather was concerned. Extreme cold the Volunteers have often had to endure, but even cold is better than mud and snowdrifts. The battle of Monday was much like such battles usually are. There were, of course, all kinds of blunders in the course of the day—some of them blunders of which the umpires should have taken immediate notice. Battalions approached each other without cover to within the distance of 200 yards, and yet were not ordered out of action; and in many instances movements were carried out which would have been absolutely impossible in real warfare.

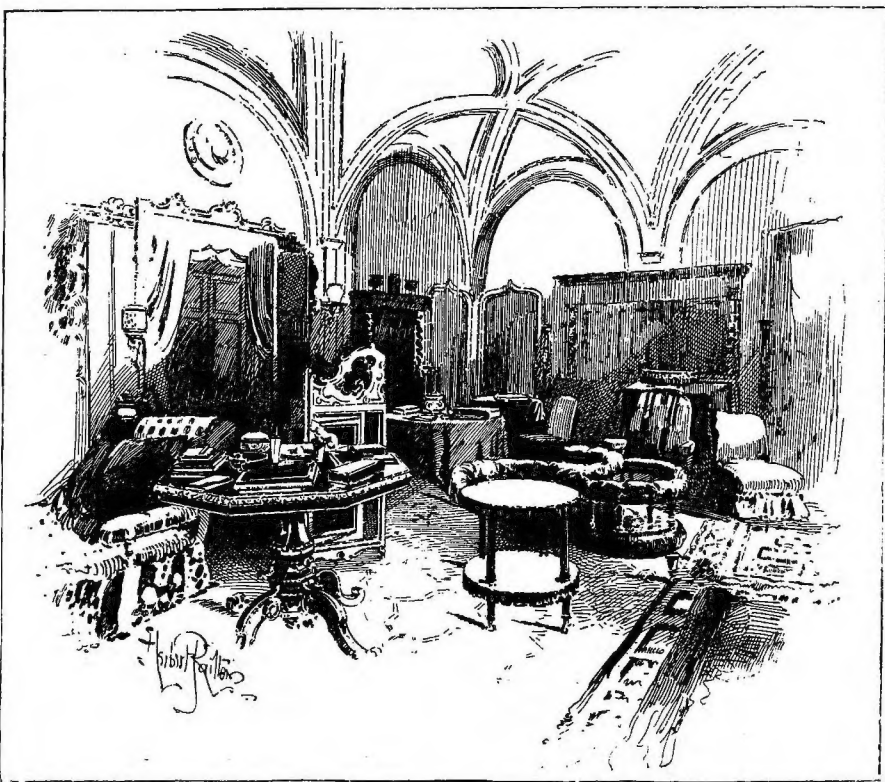




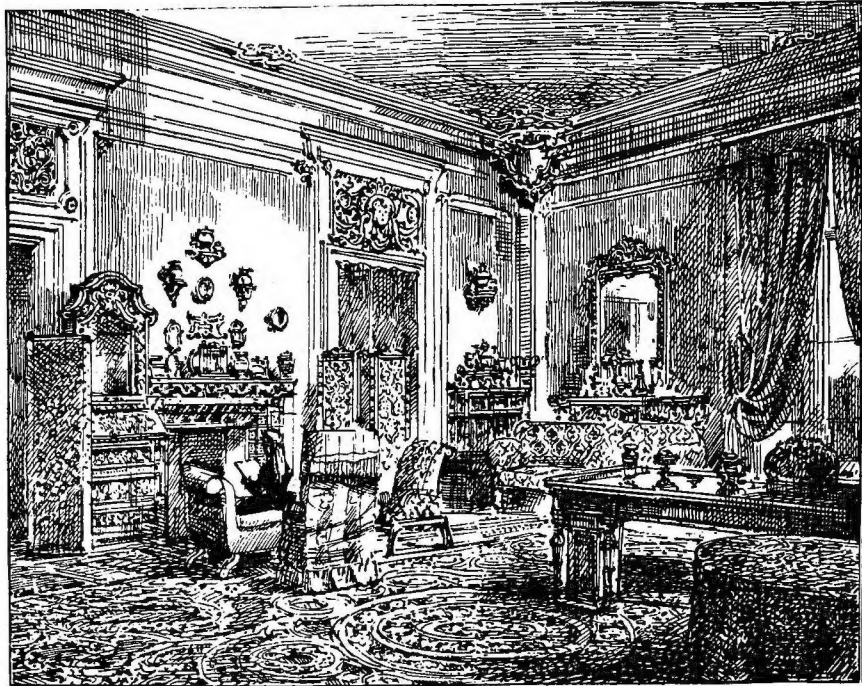
ARRIVAL OF THE QUEEN—THE ROYAL PARTY LEAVING THE RAILWAY STATION



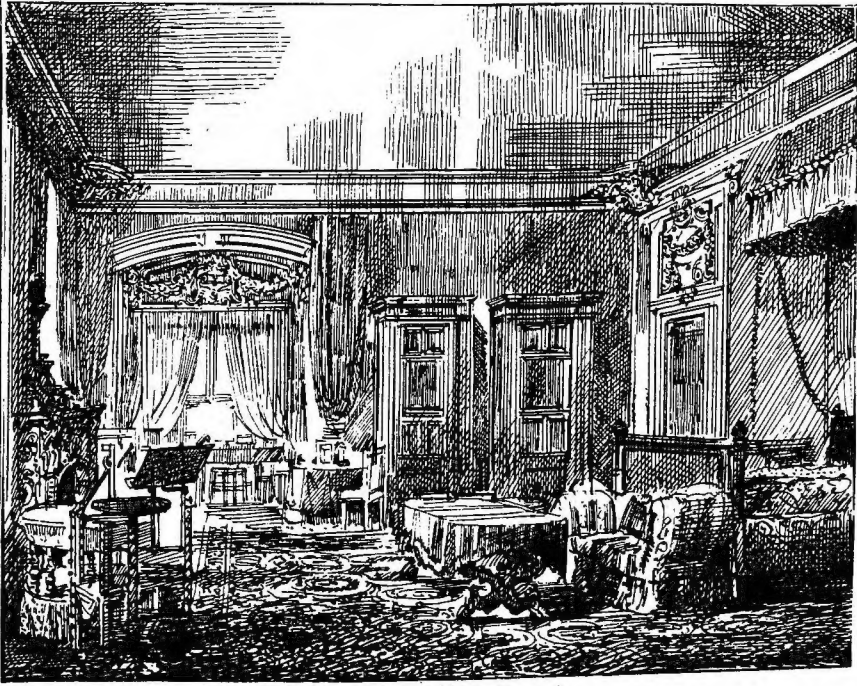
THE HALL, VILLA PALMIERI



SITTING-ROOM, VILLA PALMIERI



BOUDOIR, VILLA PALMIERI



QUEEN'S BEDROOM, VILLA PALMIERI

THE QUEEN AT FLORENCE





MADAME DE POMPADOUR  
(Mrs. Beerbohm Tree)

DUC DE CHOISEUL  
(Mr. Royce Carleton)

EUGÈNE LAMBERT  
(Mr. Fred Terry)

"LA POMPADOUR," THE NEW PLAY AT THE HAYMARKET THEATRE  
TABLEAU AT THE END OF THE SECOND ACT

P.M.



The ambulance waggons accompanied the troops everywhere where the fighting was fiercest, yet the regulation which provides that when battalions are under a hot fire men shall lie down to be conveyed to the rear by bearer-parties, was carried out in very few cases, if in any. In one particular, namely, in the arrangements made for supplying the fighting line with reserves of ammunition, there was a distinct improvement this year, ammunition waggons being in constant attendance. It is useless here to describe the fight in detail. It was generally admitted that Major-General P. Smith had failed in his attack on Dover, and that Colonel Methuen had more than held his own. That, at any rate, was the opinion of the critics on the spot; and that will probably be the ultimate verdict of the umpires when the reports from the different parts of the field come to be considered.

At Eastbourne the rival commanders were Colonels Trotter and Auchinleck. Colonel Trotter had held the chief command of the marching columns which had advanced to Eastbourne on Friday and Saturday, doing useful work on the way, similar to that performed by the Dover columns. The general idea at Eastbourne was that an invader had landed on the coast, had pushed forward a force which held the Downs round Polegate, and had also detached a force which was besieging Hastings. The object of the defending force (which in this case commenced the attack, the invaders remaining entirely on the defensive) was to drive the invaders back into the sea, and to raise the siege of Hastings. The battle was conducted with animation over difficult ground, rendered heavy by the rains of Friday and Saturday, and it is generally believed that it was the opinion of Sir Baker Russell that, although the attack was pressed home with vigour, the invaders were not dislodged from the strong positions they had taken up. Eastbourne was gay with uniforms on Saturday and Sunday. On Saturday evening the 2nd Sussex (Cinque Ports) Artillery organised in the Skating Rink a very good Assault of Arms, at which they hospitably entertained a great number of the Volunteers who were quartered in the town.

Portsmouth had, as usual, its share in the Easter activities. The low ground lying between the Portsdown Heights and the sea was the area chosen for the manoeuvres, and gunboats took an important part in the proceedings. When the attack was developed, it was discovered that Hayling Island was the objective of the invader, who attempted to land a force there under the protection of the fire from the gunboats. The presence of the gunboats gave a particular interest to these manoeuvres, which were watched from the Portsdown Heights by crowds of spectators. Several Regular battalions took part in this battle, as they did also at Dover, and Major-General Stirling's task of defending a sea-front which extended from Southsea Castle to Langstone Harbour, was generally admitted to be, with the forces at his disposal, an almost impossible one. At Aldershot an interesting sham-fight on Monday brought to a close four days of hard work, which, while they offer fewer opportunities for display, are on the whole of more practical use to the men engaged than are any of the manoeuvres which take place nearer the sea.

#### THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO FLORENCE.

HER MAJESTY arrived at Florence on Saturday week. At the station Her Majesty was received by Sir John Savile Lumley, the British Ambassador, General Pasi representing the King of Italy, Colonel Caccianino, the Marchese Torregiani, the Syndic of Florence, Signor Gadda, the Prefect of Florence, Mr. Colnaghi, the British Consul-General, and Mrs. Colnaghi, and various other dignitaries and officials. After receiving a bouquet from Mrs. Colnaghi, Her Majesty with the Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg entered an open carriage, and preceded by an outrider, and escorted by a detachment of Carabineers, drove to the Villa Palmieri, the route taken being the Via Cavour and Porta San Gallo. The streets were lined with crowds of spectators, who gave their Royal guests a very hearty greeting. Indeed, the Queen has received a warm welcome from the whole Italian nation, the various journals vying with one another in commenting upon Her Majesty's prosperous reign, and upon the friendly feeling which has always existed between Italy and England, while on Wednesday, as we record in the "Court" chronicle of the Queen's proceedings, King Humbert and his Queen arrived at Florence, to pay a special visit to Her Majesty. The line of route along which Her Majesty drove was gaily decorated, and the bands which had been stationed at the Cathedral struck up "God Save the Queen" as the little *cortège* passed, the costumes of the Scotch gillie and the Indian attendants exciting no little remark amongst the bystanders. The popular welcome was enhanced by the bright sunshine, which burst forth for the first time after a week's rain. At the Villa Palmieri the Queen was received by the Dowager Countess of Crawford, and found several bouquets awaiting her, one being from the British lady residents of Florence, and another from a number of Florentine ladies. We have already described and illustrated some features of the Villa, but we may add that the Queen occupies the upper part of the Villa usually devoted to bedrooms. First in the suite comes the breakfast-room, then the saloon, containing some beautiful sandal-wood cabinets encrusted with *lapis lazuli*, which belonged to the Grand Duchess of Tuscany, then Her Majesty's dressing-room, a room for the attendant, and at the further end the Royal bedroom. The only room utilised by Her Majesty on the ground floor is the dining-room, although the suite have apartments there. The Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg, however, have rooms on the same floor as Her Majesty.—Our sketch of Her Majesty's arrival is by Major-General H. G. Robley, and our views of the villa from photographs by Mr. Alfred Spence.

#### "THE POMPADOUR" AT THE HAYMARKET

MOST of our readers who take an interest in matters theatrical are by this time aware that Messrs. Wills and Grundy, in their ingenious new play at the Haymarket, have taken considerable liberties with historical accuracy. Madame de Pompadour (*née* Poisson) was married to a M. d'Étiolles, a nephew of one of the notorious farmers-general of the old *régime*, before she "took up" with the French monarch; and there is no warrant for the conception that she was really married to a poor musician, whom she heartlessly deserts in his misery and poverty, while he in return spends weary years in searching for his wife and child. Such is the theme of *Narcisse*, a play by Brachvogel, and on this structure Messrs. Wills and Grundy have founded their drama. *Narcisse* Rameau, the vagabond, half-crazy, strolling musician, is just the character for Mr. Beerbohm Tree; while Mr. F. Terry plays the son, Eugène Lambert. Eugène, who is Private Secretary to the Prime Minister, the Duc de Choiseul (Mr. Royce Carleton), detests his unknown mother, The Pompadour (Mrs. Beerbohm Tree). The scene represented in our illustration is taken from the end of the second act, where Eugène indignantly refuses to execute a command put upon him by the Royal favourite, and furiously denounces her as the enemy of France and a traitor to the Queen. His arrest and condemnation to death immediately follow.

#### WITH THE CYCLIST CORPS

See page 371.

#### THE NEW YORK BLIZZARD

SHORTLY after its occurrence we gave a full account of this remarkable phenomenon. It will only be necessary here, therefore, to summarise a few of the details. On Friday and Saturday, March

9th and 10th, although there had previously been great cold and snowstorms in the North Western States, the sky in New York was clear and the air balmy. Sunday brought a south-west wind, and warm rain, the thermometer rising to 60 deg. Gradually the rain increased, towards sunset becoming a perfect deluge, and converting the street sewers into torrents. After midnight the wind veered to north-west, and increased to a gale, blowing sixty miles an hour. The temperature fell rapidly, the rain changed to snow, and the snow froze to the telegraph and telephone wires, thus breaking the poles which supported them. When Monday morning dawned, New York found itself isolated. All overground wires were destroyed or rendered useless, and the railway cuttings were choked with enormous snow drifts, the tracks being also obstructed by thousands of prostrate telegraph-poles. Thus the railway traffic was paralysed, the ferry-boats could not cross the rivers, and the Brooklyn Bridge was closed, as the gale would blow everything off it if a crossing were attempted. People who essayed to go out of doors were blinded by the blizzard and choked by the snow. On Monday night the mercury sank to zero, while the gale, which had moderated, again increased in violence. Tuesday found New York more paralysed even than the day before. Tuesday night was bleak and cold, but the storm had at last blown itself out. Next day people began to arise from their enforced torpor, which had made them as helpless as the three days' darkness did the ancient Egyptians, brigades of men were organised to clear away snowdrifts on the railways, and telegraphic communication was opened with Boston *via* London (!), the Commercial Cable telegrams twice crossing the ocean. These three days will long be remembered in the chronicles of the City of Manhattan.

#### MR. CHAMBERLAIN AT BIRMINGHAM

MR. CHAMBERLAIN was most cordially received by his fellow-townsmen at Birmingham on March 28th, in recognition of the successful issue of his labours on the Canadian Fisheries Commission, and of the eminent services which he has at various times rendered to the town. Accompanied by his sister, Miss Chamberlain, he arrived in Birmingham from London shortly after mid-day, and some time afterwards drove to the Council House, where the members of the Town Council were already assembled under the presidency of the Mayor, Mr. Maurice Pollack. The Town Clerk read a resolution conferring on Mr. Chamberlain the honorary freedom of the town of Birmingham, and the Mayor, after an appropriate speech, handed to the recipient of the honour an illuminated copy of the resolution enclosed in a silver casket, and offered him the right hand of fellowship as the first honorary burgess of the town. Mr. Chamberlain then signed the burgess roll, and returned thanks in a speech in which he dwelt chiefly on the municipal improvements which had been accomplished in Birmingham during the last twenty years.

In the evening a public banquet was held at the Town Hall, at which some three hundred and fifty guests sat down, the galleries being crowded with spectators. The Mayor presided, and there were also present, among other persons of distinction, Mr. John Bright, Mr. Jesse Collings, Sir J. Sawyer, Dr. Dale, and the High Sheriff of Warwickshire, Mr. J. Jaffray. Dr. Dale proposed the toast of the evening, "Our Guest," to which Mr. Chamberlain made an eloquent response, speaking of the kindly reception he had met with in America, and expressing a hope that all future controversies between the two nations would be settled as between friends and kinsmen and not as between enemies and rivals. Mr. Bright followed in a characteristic speech, quite in his old vein, scolding the Americans for their protective doctrines, and pointing out the futility of Imperial federation so long as the colonies were liable to be dragged by the mother-country into the mischievous and unnecessary wars in which from time to time she indulges.

#### COLONEL TAPP

A SEVERE skirmish recently took place at Suakim. At daybreak, on March 4th, the rebels, who had previously been firing on the town, were found to have occupied a position in force on the site of Fort Hudson. An attempt was made to dislodge them by means of the mounted corps, two companies of Egyptian, and one of black troops, with about 200 "friendlies," aided by the fire from the forts and the men-of-war. The position, however, being found too strong, our men retired. While they were retiring, the enemy, led by their mounted sheiks, charged furiously, killing Colonel Tapp, who was in command of the 3rd Battalion, and five other men, and wounding seventeen. The enemy's losses must have been very severe, fifty men or more.

Colonel William Heathcote Tapp was born August 27th, 1855. He entered the army as a sub-Lieutenant in the 6th Foot in 1875, and was at once gazetted to the Welsh Regiment, in which he got his Captaincy in August, 1882. In 1884 he entered the service of the Egyptian Government with the rank of Colonel, and at the time of his death was in command of one of the Egyptian regiments garrisoning Suakim. He was one of the finest and most promising officers in the English Army, and, for his services in Egypt had received the Fourth Class of the Order of the Osmanieh.—Our portrait is from a photograph by O. Schoefft, Cairo, Egypt.

#### THE LATE SULTAN OF ZANZIBAR

DURING the lifetime of Seyyid Said, father of Seyyid Bargash, the subject of the present notice, Zanzibar and Muscat were united under one rule. But when he died, his fifteen sons squabbled over the inheritance, until England intervened to appease the strife, and persuaded one son to be content with Muscat, and another, Majid, with Zanzibar. When Majid died, in 1870, he was succeeded by his brother Seyyid Bargash, who was then thirty-three years of age. At that time Dr. (now Sir John) Kirk was Acting-Consul at Zanzibar; he acted as Bargash's guide, philosopher, and friend, and made British influence all-powerful. It was he who succeeded, where Sir Bartle Frere had failed, in persuading the Sultan to sign a treaty which, if fully carried out, would have abolished the slave-trade in Zanzibar. This it has not done, but has modified it in its worst features. The late Sultan claimed sovereignty as far west as Lake Tanganyika, but when German travellers began to penetrate into the country, they persuaded some of the inland chiefs to declare their independence, and this action was backed up by Prince Bismarck, who, at that time, was making himself extremely "nasty" to this country, as a set-off against Mr. Gladstone's alleged Continental policy. At all events, a Convention was held in London two years ago, by which England and Germany agreed that the Sultan's dominions should be confined to the islands and a strip of coast ten miles wide, and the Sultan's good-nature or prudence is proved by the fact that he assented to this cool piece of spoliation. But his good-nature and tolerance were also shown by the fact that though a Wahabi, the strictest Moslem sect, he was always most considerate to English missionaries and English travellers. He died at his palace on March 27th, just after arriving from Muscat, and was peacefully succeeded by his eldest surviving brother, Seyyid Khalifah.—Our portrait is from a photograph by Maull and Fox, 187a, Piccadilly, W.

#### MR. D. A. THOMAS, M.P.

At the General Election in the summer of 1886, Messrs. Henry Richard and Charles Herbert James, both Gladstonian Liberals, were returned for the borough of Merthyr Tydvil. Recently, Mr. James having given up his seat, two candidates appeared in the field, namely, Mr. D. A. Thomas, in the Gladstonian interest, and Mr. D. E. Davies, representing the claims of labour. Before the

election, however (which took place on the 14th of March), Mr. Davies withdrew, and consequently Mr. Thomas, the only candidate nominated, was declared duly elected.

Mr. D. A. Thomas, who is a son of the late Samuel Thomas, Esq., of Ysbyorwen, Aberdare, was born in 1856. He was educated by Dr. Hudson, of Clifton, and at Caius College, Cambridge (B.A. Mathematical Tripos, 1880; M.A., 1883). He is managing partner of the firm of Messrs. Thomas, Riches, and Co., colliery owners, Cardiff. He is a J.P. for Glamorganshire. In 1882 Mr. Thomas married Sybil Margaret, daughter of G. A. Haig, Esq., of Pen Ithon, Radnorshire.—Our portrait is from a photograph by the London Stereoscopic Company, Regent Street and Cheapside.

#### THE FLOODS ON THE CONTINENT

THIS spring has been marked in Northern and Central Europe by the most terrible floods. The rivers Elbe, Oder, Vistula, and Wartha have overflowed their banks owing to the swollen condition of the streams from the melting of the heavy snow, and to the great accumulation of ice, which in certain parts of the rivers have completely blocked the channels, and thus forced the waters to inundate the surrounding districts. In this manner thousands of miles have been laid under water, hundreds of villages swept away, or completely devastated, large numbers of cattle drowned, and many lives lost. Through the bursting of a dyke at the mouth of the Nogat, a branch of the Vistula, great devastation was caused, and the damage done in the low-lying district of Ebling, Eastern Prussia, is alone estimated at 10,000,000*l.*, seventy-seven villages, and more than 300 square miles of country inhabited by 30,000 persons having been inundated. It is said that it will take months of steam labour to pump the water away, and meanwhile all cultivation is out of the question. Indeed, throughout the course of the Vistula the greatest distress has been caused by the floods, despite the strenuous exertions of the authorities, who have sent thousands of labourers and soldiers to strengthen the dykes where feasible, and to relieve the sufferers as far as possible.—Our illustrations are from sketches taken in Austrian Poland, near Cracow, and one represents an artillery bombardment of a huge barrage of ice across the Vistula in order to clear a passage for the rapidly swelling waters, and if possible prevent the district from being inundated. In Hungary the floods have been equally disastrous—the waters of the Theiss and Szamos and some of the smaller rivers having swept everything before them. The entire county of Bekes is a huge lake, and as the waters cannot return to the bed of the river they will remain probably until the end of the summer, thus causing great misery to the population.

#### WITH THE SIKKIM EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

##### THE CAPTURE OF FORT LING-TU

SIKKIM is a small feudatory State in Northern India lying between Nepal and Bhotan, the Rajah receiving a pension of 1,200*l.* a year from the Indian Government in exchange for certain lands ceded by him in Darjeeling. Two years since the Rajah paid a visit to the Grand Lama of Tibet at Lhasa, and on his return allowed a Tibetan military force to enter Sikkim and to establish a fortified post at Ling-tu, an important position, which commands the best trade from Northern India to Tibet, for though a tongue of Tibetan territory impinges upon the British frontier between Sikkim and Bhotan, a lofty mountain range precludes access at that point, so that the most frequented road crosses obliquely an angle of Sikkim territory passing from Ling-tu through the Jelalpa Pass. The "fort" in question is described as a breastwork 16 feet high and 8 feet thick, with bastions at each end, and quarters for a garrison, running from the summit of a hill to a precipice. It is stated that the fort took 200 men two months to build, and that the Tibetans impressed all the coolies they could lay their hands upon for the work, and even put two to death because they declined to obey. The Indian Government, finding that so important a trade route was threatened, requested the Rajah to order the Tibetans to retire. The Rajah, however, replied that he was powerless, so that an expeditionary force of 2,000 men was despatched, under the command of Colonel Graham, R.A., and an ultimatum sent to the Tibetans to evacuate the fort by the 15th inst. As the latter treated the summons with contempt, Colonel Graham advanced, with the result, that the Tibetans retreated precipitately upon his appearance on the 20th inst., and that the fort was occupied without serious resistance, only one officer and one man on our side being wounded.

Our illustrations are from sketches before the march forward by Lieutenant Harry C. Tytler, 32nd Pioneers, who writes:—

"One sketch is a view of Fort Ling-tu. The peak upon which the fort is built is the highest in the sketch, and is taken from the Pioneer Camp at Dolepchin. Ling-tu and the hill behind it are covered with snow, the former is twelve thousand seven hundred feet high. Its distance from Dolepchin is eight miles in a straight line, the latter place being four thousand five hundred feet high. The Tibetan road descends from Dolepchin to the Rongli Chu (River), by a zigzag and rocky path, crossing this river by a bridge, shown in the second sketch, and again ascends to Ling-tu, and the Jelalpa Pass beyond, by the hill shown in the middle of the sketch. The trees in the foreground are very similar in appearance to those in England. The ground near the Sikkimese house is covered with stones, brushwood, and bracken; and when standing in front of the house, you are able to see through it, as above the trellis-work there is nothing but matting placed loosely across.

"The second sketch is a view of the old bamboo bridge (across the Rongli Chu) mentioned above, now broken and disused, and shows the proposed site of the new bridge to be built by the 32nd Pioneers. On the left of the sketch is a perpendicular precipice, which will necessitate a great deal of blasting for the new road. On the right and at the bottom are some bamboo and plantain trees, and bracken ferns. The background consists of thick jungle, and is very steep and rocky. A short distance from the bridge the 32nd Pioneers are encamped under the command of Sir B. Bromhead, Bart., in a strongly fortified position."

#### "HOW I FARED AT THE EASTER REVIEW"

See pp. 377 et seqq.

#### "THE MYSTERY OF MIRBRIDGE"

A NEW STORY by James Payn, illustrated by George Du Maurier, is continued on page 381.

#### DEEDS OF "DERRING-DO," BY OUR NORTH SEA FISHERMEN

HARDY seadogs are they, somewhat reckless, though much improved in character since the Special Mission to them was founded and energetically engineered by Mr. E. J. Mather, from whose book "Norard of the Dogger" I have gleaned representative deeds of "Derring-do."

The *Brunette* sailed out of Falmouth Harbour, through the Cockle Gat and the Newarp Gat to sea. The mate sighted a ship on shore on Winterton Ridge. They put about, threw out the boat, and found the ship had disappeared. They bore up before the wind boat astern, ready manned, sailing through wreckage, and spied a man on a piece of wreck; steered for him, with a good cheer they cast off the boat, and had him in, the sole survivor. She had struck on the Ridge, given a lurch or two, slipped off into deep water, and sank.



The *Primrose* sailed from Hull, and when a couple of hundred miles at sea fell in with a steamer in distress, the captain and crew hailing to be taken off. The crew in a cross-running sea, in a small open boat made three trips to the steamer; but in the third, the boat was lost sight of. It contained Harry Jones and the mate, and although the smack cruised for forty-eight hours in search, the boat and men were never seen again, the men leaving wives and families to mourn their loss.

Skipper T. describes how he sighted a vessel close to the edge of the Barnard Sands, the sea making a clean reach over her. He lay to and waited for the tide, then bore up for the wreck, threw out the boat, which he and two others pulled alongside. Night falling fast, they settled to risk taking the whole crew of twelve at one trip; by the time they fetched the smack the boat was just about sinking. The wreck sank five minutes after the boat left.

The *Bessie* was struck by a heavy sea on the Dogger and hove on to her beam ends. One man below was buried alive by the ballast. The *Fawn* bore down, and the mate and third hand volunteering made their way to the *Bessie*, and rescued the six survivors. The R.H.S.'s medal was awarded to the rescuers.

The *Cavalier* left Hull on a voyage. A gale came on, and she was riding to it, with all canvas stowed, when a sea took out her main and mizen masts. For thirty hours she lay on her beam ends, the mate standing in the cabin up to his elbows in water, handing up buckets to the cook on the ladder, who emptied them through the open companion. Next morning a steamer was sighted, then several more, but they did not dare assist; however, the Grimsby smack *Blanche* came up, threw out her boat, and rescued the crew of five, who were soon safely ensconced by the cabin stove, and landed at Grimsby.

These North Sea heroes look on these rescues as a part of their ordinary duty, and seldom report the cases. Mr. Ashford, of the Hull Trawl Fishermen's Protection Society, says:—"These services are done as a rule without hope of reward"—owners are put to expense by loss of the voyage, and provisions eaten up, and the public know nothing of these deeds of heroism. "THE SKIPPER"

### UNDER THE NEW RULES

THE House of Commons met on Thursday after the Easter recess. A mere comparison of dates establishes the marvellous advance which the current session shows in the history of an assembly that is beginning to reassert its position as a gathering of business men. On the 5th of April last year, Mr. Balfour rose in the presence of an intensely hostile Opposition to move the second reading of the Coercion Bill. Up to that date, the House having met just a fortnight earlier than this year, the only business accomplished was the passing of the Closure Rule, with an occasional night devoted to absolutely necessary progress with the Estimates. The debate on the Queen's Speech had occupied twelve successive nights of the Session, being upwards of a fortnight of time as it is reckoned by the almanack. The Closure Rule was adopted only after fourteen nights of angry controversy. The Coercion Resolution was adopted after five nights' wrangling, and thereafter, beginning before Easter and continuing long after, there were debates on successive stages of the Coercion Bill. The Easter Recess was practically obliterated. The House adjourned on the eve of Good Friday, assembling on the following Tuesday, when the weary round of struggle over the second reading of the Coercion Bill was resumed. This Session, the House of Commons, with its withers unwrung by protracted sittings, has enjoyed something like the old Easter holidays. It does not come to very much, the recess extending just over a week. But the need was not so great as either last Session or in any preceding it, back to the time when, in 1874, Mr. Disraeli unexpectedly came into power, and the House of Commons, wearied out with the fervour of Mr. Gladstone's Administration in the Parliament of 1868, gratefully revelled in the new order of things, presently to be disturbed by the birth of the Parnellite party.

The Session up to Easter will always be memorable in Parliamentary history as furnishing opportunity for experiment of the New Rules passed in its earliest days. The House and the country have since the 9th of February grown accustomed to startling reforms introduced by a Conservative Government. But nothing has been more drastic than the reform of Procedure, which will make ever memorable the reign of the present Government. It has always seemed to ordinary men a monstrous thing that the national business should be conducted upon such Rules of Procedure as formerly obtained. The House of Commons, the most omnipotent public body in the world, was, in the old times, absolutely at the mercy of the most insignificant and, using the word in its parliamentary sense, the least reputable member of its association. The most important Bill, or the most momentous resolution, was under the control of Mr. Biggar, Mr. O'Donnell, or Mr. Warton. Six hundred gentlemen might have been whipped up to give their decision upon a question of State policy; it might have been of the utmost importance that a decision should be taken at a certain sitting; the Leader of the Opposition may have made his final protest; the Leader of the House might have essayed to wind up the debate; but thereafter any member, however personally insignificant, was omnipotent in his supremacy. He could keep the House waiting till whatever hour of the morning his vocal energies sustained him, and the only way of getting a Lill or a resolution voted upon was attained by sitting up till such hour as he pleased to sit down.

All that is now changed, and, what is even more remarkable than the metamorphosis that has come over the House, is the general acceptance of the situation. The chief wonder of the day amid the marvellous change that has taken place is that the former state of things should have been endured so long. It was always resented, but there was a general and fatal idea that it was inevitable. The fetish of personal freedom in the palladium of British liberty was so grotesquely supreme that any attempt to depose it was regarded as an act of sacrilege. The ultimate vestige of Conservatism always clung about any attempts to adjust the Procedure of the House of Commons to the necessities of the day. In the battle the Conservatives naturally ranged themselves in opposition. But sometimes, happily, circumstances alter cases. What Mr. Gladstone and the Liberal party proposed in 1882 was a poor, inadequate thing compared with what Mr. Smith, with the assent if not the approval of the Conservative party, has passed in 1888. The foundation and base of the due conduct of business in the House of Commons is the right of the majority to decide when controversy shall cease and in action shall commence. This was the principle worked for in the long and fruitless debates of the Autumn Session of 1882. But it was successfully resisted, not so much by the regular Conservative party, represented by Sir Stafford Northcote, as by the lively offshoot then coming into notoriety under the title of the Fourth Party. The proposal to vindicate the authority of the majority, and impose the Closure by the will of the larger number of members, was rejected, and since then, up to the present Session, the House of Commons has struggled along manacled by the minority, an object of wonder and contempt to the civilised world.

The best test of the success of the New Rules of Procedure passed in the present Session is found in consideration of what would happen supposing it were proposed to go back to the consecrated order of things that had vogue last Session, or during its predecessors. The reform seemed so hard to accomplish. But it was really much easier than it would be to go back to the old state of things. Under the New Rules the House of Commons now commences public

business at half-past three. Questions on the average take something like an hour, and by half-past four, the hour in which during former Sessions questioning began, the real business of the sitting commences. In the comprehensive and radical scheme of reform adopted by the House, one important omission was made in the retention of the power enjoyed by private members of occupying this earliest and freshest hour of the meeting with what in considerable degree is parochial business. Mr. Smith, in his well-devised and bold grappling with a system of public nuisance, did not venture to include the simple plan, inevitably the next step in reform, of requiring that questions shall, with certain limitations, be submitted in writing, and, with the answers of Ministers, be circulated with the votes in printed form. That will come. In the mean time the country may well be grateful for the enormous improvement in Procedure so swiftly and thoroughly accomplished.

It is not only the actual working of the New Rules that has had such beneficial effects, though they were well designed to attain that end. It is the means to do ill deeds that makes ill deeds done, and, the opportunities removed, and the House of Commons having nothing else to do, has really at last set itself about doing the business of the nation. The accomplishments of the Session, as far as it has gone, are quite unprecedented in a similar space of time. In working out the results accomplished justice must be done to the attitude of the Opposition. In 1882 it was the Opposition that wrecked the proposed reforms of Procedure. In 1888, it is the Opposition that have made them possible. The time occupied in the carrying of the drastic Procedure Rules proposed by the Conservative Government contrasts remarkably with the fate that befel the proposals of the Autumn Session of 1882. Once established, the Rules begin to exercise their beneficent effect, which has been felt, not only in relation to Government measures, but to the efforts of private members. The difference between the House of Commons to-day and the House of Commons this time last year is something akin to what exists between an accoutred horse and a horse ridden without bit or bridle. With ordinary sense and tact it is easy enough now to carry business measures through the House of Commons, and the progress made in the Session up to Easter affords brilliant justification of the earliest effort at legislation undertaken. The House had a splendid record accomplished before the adjournment for the recess, and it returned to its work on Thursday with the certainty that before the Prorogation it will have a catalogue of accomplished work that will re-establish its long-standing reputation as a business assembly.

HENRY W. LUCY



POLITICAL ITEMS.—At the inaugural dinner of a new Conservative Club at Clifton, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach spoke very cheerfully of the position and prospects of the Government, remarking incidentally on the great improvement in the debates and manners of the House of Commons which had been produced by the new Rules of Procedure. Adverting to the "great" Local Government Bill, he said that no measure of its magnitude could be carried without receiving many and important changes. He scouted the notion that it was a death-blow to the English squire. Both when the Ballot was passed, and when Household Suffrage was given to the counties, the Radicals predicted the political extinction of the squirearchy, but the English squire is still to the fore, and the best of them are still, as in the past generations, representing the county constituencies.—Receiving, on Wednesday, from the Birmingham Peace and Arbitration Union an address of congratulation on the success of his mission to America, Mr. Chamberlain expressed a hope that a satisfactory compromise had been achieved. At any rate, they had secured a formal record of the opinion of the three Governments concerned, and had had experience of disinterested representations which would tend to a final settlement.—Speaking at Shanklin on Wednesday, the Attorney-General, referring to the taunt that the Local Government Bill was a Radical measure, defied any one to point to a single speech on the Radical side in which such a scheme as that of the Government had been either advocated or indicated.—At Newcastle, on the same day, Mr. John Morley pronounced a censure on the Budget, and criticised the Local Government Bill, which, however, he admitted was "an important instalment." He objected to the proposed Councils sitting at county centres, and would prefer to see each parish having its open Vestry, or general parish meeting, where all the ratepayers, however humble, might say their say.—A Knighthood is conferred upon Mr. Marriott, the Judge-Advocate-General, an office the abolition of which is said to be contemplated.

IRELAND.—Mr. W. O'Brien, M.P., energetically seconded by Mr. Healy, M.P., has been delivering a violent and rambling speech at Mitcheltown. In spite of Mr. Gladstone's famous apostrophe and the efforts of the local Nationalist leaders to get up an imposing demonstration, the indignant orators had not an audience of more than five or six hundred people.—In open defiance of the law, meetings of the National League in Clare and Galway counties, in which it has been suppressed, are announced for to-morrow (Sunday). Messrs. Dillon and W. O'Brien, M.P.'s, with Michael Davitt, are to be among the speakers, if speaking there is to be. The resident magistrates will take all necessary precautions to prevent the meetings, and will be supported at each point by an adequate force.—Serious disturbances have been threatened at Limerick by assaults of the mob on the military, some of whom had excited the ire of the populace by having the audacity to sing "Rule Britannia," and even "God Save the Queen."

MISCELLANEOUS.—The recent Mary Stuart Exhibition at Peterborough perhaps suggested, and in any case is to be followed by, one in London, of pictures and other objects of interest connected with the Royal House of Stuart. The Queen has consented to be patron.—On Easter Monday there were nearly twice as many visitors to the Natural History Museum at South Kensington as on the same day last year.—The annual conference of the National Union of Elementary Teachers, held this week at Cheltenham, unanimously adopted a resolution condemning the principle of "payment by results," and pronouncing it to have greatly retarded the progress of sound education.—A Committee of the Whitechapel Guardians, whose excellent administration of their functions is well known, have reported in favour of an immediate conference of the Guardians of all the Metropolitan Unions to consider a proposal to give through the Poor Law the means of training in agricultural work, so as to fit men of good character and solid determination for the profitable occupation of the soil in this country or the Colonies.—A bi-metallic conference has been held this week at Manchester, Mr. H. H. Gibbs presiding, and several M.P.'s taking part in the discussion.

OUR OBITUARY records the death of the Countess Dowager of Caledon; in her fifty-first year, of Lady Victoria Kirwan, daughter of the second Marquis of Hastings; in her fifty-seventh year, of the Lady Margaret Beaumont; in his fifty-first year, of the Earl of Lisburne; in his seventy-sixth year, of Lord Hatherton, from 1847 to 1857 M.P. for Walsall and South Staffordshire successively; in his twenty-ninth year, of the Hon. Charles E. Lowther, third son of the third Earl of Lonsdale, and heir-

presumptive to the present peer; in his eighty-second year, of Sir Christopher Rawlinson, formerly Chief Justice of Madras; in his fifty-eighth year, of Mr. A. O. Charles, for forty years devoted to religious and philanthropic work, beginning his career on the office-staff of the Church Missionary Society, subsequently Secretary to the Reformatory and Refuge Unions and to the Home and Colonial School Society, but best known as one of the founders, and as the persistent promoter of the Farningham and Swanley Homes for Little Boys, of which 500 orphans and other destitute juveniles under ten, and unconvicted of crime, are now the inmates; in his seventy-fifth year, of the Rev. Richard Gibbins, DD., Canon of Kildare, formerly Professor of Ecclesiastical History in Trinity College, Dublin; in his sixtieth year, of the Rev. Daniel Trinder, Vicar and lately Rural Dean of Highgate; in his eighty-sixth year, of the Rev. William Quekett, for about thirty years Rector of Warrington, who, when at St. George's-in-the-East, London, was described by the late Charles Dickens as a "model curate," and who had recently published an autobiographical work, "My Sayings and Doings"; in his seventy-sixth year, of Dr. John Wilson, Emeritus Professor of Agriculture in the University of Edinburgh, author of several useful contributions to agricultural literature; and in his eighty-second year, of Mr. Augustus Mongredien, as a writer, chiefly known by his championship of Free Trade against Fair Trade, whose Civil List pension of 100*l.* a year, bestowed on him by Mr. Gladstone, was the subject of some comment in and out of Parliament.



RECENT FIRES IN THEATRES have forcibly impressed Spanish officials with the need of stringent precautions against such disasters. All the Madrid theatres are required to adopt the electric light within six months, gas being prohibited for the future. Would that our own *Ediles* would exercise similar arbitrary powers.

THE PIGEONS OF VIENNA are seriously threatened. Hitherto hosts of the birds have lived freely in the Austrian capital, feeding off the windowsills, and roosting on the roofs of public dwellings. Now the Viennese Municipality declare that the pigeons disfigure the town monuments, and suggest that they should be caught, and sent to the hospitals and schools to be eaten.

THE BERLIN HOTEL-KEEPERS are to be officially prosecuted for infringing a police-regulation at the time of the Emperor's death. They are bound to furnish the police with a list of their charges for rooms, and to notify any change in the charges. When visitors crowded into Berlin for the funeral, the hotel-keepers demanded immense sums for accommodation, and omitted to report the change to the police. So now they must suffer for their extortion.

THE REMNANTS OF THE FRENCH CROWN JEWELS preserved by the State have been arranged in their permanent quarters in the Galerie d'Apollon of the Paris Louvre. They are most ingeniously inclosed in an elaborate glass and iron safe, which, at the slightest sign of danger to the contents, can be lowered into a strong vault below. Only those jewels of a historical value have been kept, such as the Regent diamond, &c., and they will now be regularly shown to the public among the Louvre treasures.

THE DISTRESS IN CHINA, caused by the great Yellow River floods, is at last sensibly abating. As the waters have been successfully drained off in several districts, many farmers have returned to their houses, while other sufferers are helped by the Chinese authorities to migrate to favourable quarters. The officials are also distributing money and food freely, but they are rather jealous of help from foreigners lest their people should think that they themselves were keeping back some of the Government money, and leaving foreigners to supply the deficiency.

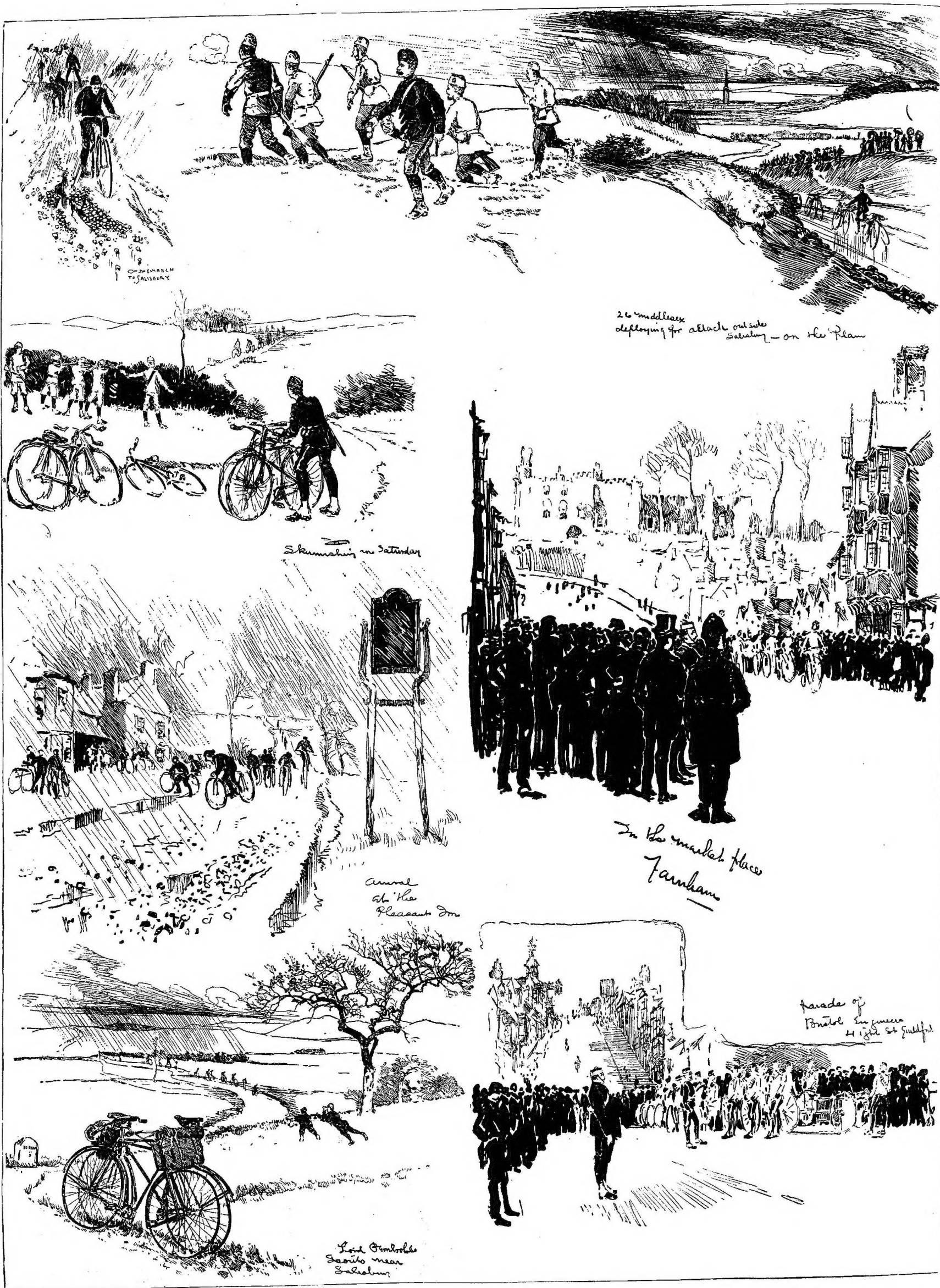
THE BABY KING OF SPAIN'S SECOND BIRTHDAY is to be kept in Madrid next May by a monster *fête* to the school children, somewhat like the *fête* of London children during the Jubilee. Each child will wear a little medal with the young king's portrait, while Alphonso VII. and his family will have similar medals in gold. Twelve thousand meat pies, as many cakes and oranges, and 1,500 pounds of sweets have been ordered to regale the little ones, who will sing hymns and odes to their juvenile Sovereign. A building closely connected with the Spanish Royal Family is doomed—the old historic Atocha church, where Spanish Sovereigns are married, and resort to pray on State occasion. This famous shrine of the Black Virgin is so shaky that it must be pulled down, but it will be rebuilt in four years at the Royal expense.

THE FIRST NATIVE FEMALE GRADUATE in Western India, the young Parsee lady, Miss Cornelia Sorabji, whose portrait we recently engraved, has been appointed a college tutor in Ahmedabad. As yet only a few American colleges have ventured on the novelty of allowing a lady to teach young University men, and, considering the widespread native dislike to advanced female education, it will be curious to see how the experiment succeeds in India. Certainly, Oriental women are beginning to move with the times, for great preparations are being made in Tokio to open a Ladies' Institute, which is housed in a Japanese palace, and enjoys the presidency of an Imperial Prince. Six English ladies have gone out to work in the Institute, and instruct Japanese girls in the higher branches of education.

EMPEROR FREDERICK OF GERMANY still finds time to superintend the elaborate history of the Great Elector which he suggested many years ago to two German historians, and which has now reached eleven volumes. The Emperor himself outlined the details of the work, which is compiled from family and State archives, and is now watching the progress of Vol. XII. The Emperor, despite his illness, rises early—at 7.30. He then drinks a cup of chocolate, but does not breakfast properly until 9.30, when he makes a fair meal of either poultry, fish, or his favourite caviare. He dines at 1 P.M. on soup, fish, and joints and sweets, and at four takes a cup of coffee, usually in the Orangery at Charlottenburg. Supper of meat and poultry follows at 8 P.M. He drinks little wine, but much milk, sometimes dashed with whisky, and he also takes mineral water from an Austrian spring.

LONDON MORTALITY has increased during the last two weeks, and 1,655 and 1,668 deaths have been registered against 1,604 the previous seven days, but being 273 and 244 below the average, and at the rate of 20.2 and 20.3 per 1,000. There were 18 and 17 deaths from measles, 24 and 40 from scarlet fever, being 2 below and 12 above the average, 17 and 15 from diphtheria, 80 and 93 from whooping-cough, 1 and 1 from typhus fever, 10 and 13 from enteric fever, 6 and 16 from diarrhoea and dysentery, and not one from small-pox, ill-defined forms of continued fever, or cholera. There were 1,107 scarlet fever patients in the Metropolitan Asylums Hospital at the close of the week, besides 80 in the London Fever Hospital. Deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs numbered 457 and 460, and were 78 and 59 below the average. Different forms of violence caused 46 and 75 deaths, 60 and 71 were the result of negligence or accident, among which were 28 and 25 from fractures and contusions, 8 and 10 from burns and scalds, 3 and 1 from drowning, 3 from poison, and 18 and 22 of infants under one year of age from suffocation. Four and two cases of suicide were registered, and were 3 and 6 below the average. There were 2,522 and 2,492 births registered, against 2,629 the previous week, being 341 and 318 below the average.





ON MARCH  
TO SALISBURY

26 middlesex  
deploying for attack outside  
Salisbury - on the plain

Skirmishing in Saturday

Arrival  
at the  
Pleasant Inn

In the market place  
Farnham

Parade of  
Bristol Engineers  
at 1/2 St. Paul's

Lord Pembroke  
Sawley near  
Salisbury





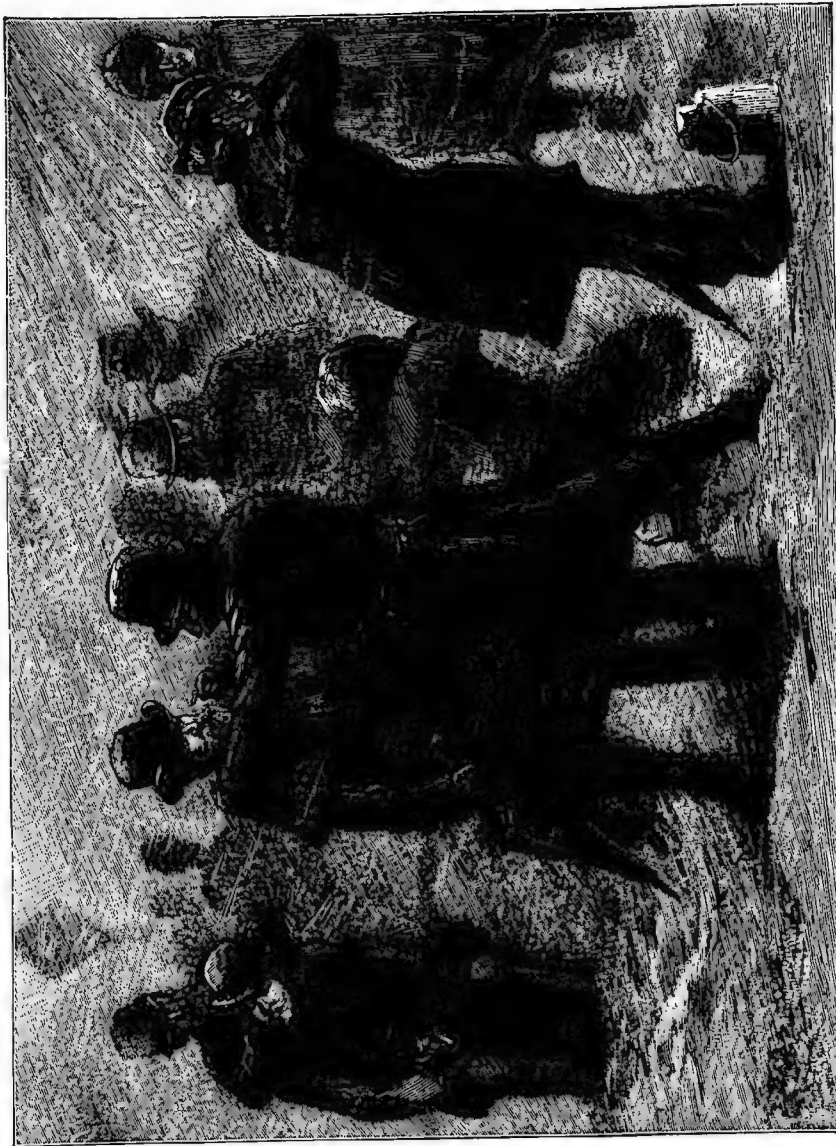
ASPECT OF AN UP-TOWN STREET THE DAY AFTER THE STORM



BURNING HOLES IN THE SNOW AFTER THE STORM



THE PERILS OF UNION SQUARE IN THE MIDST OF THE "BLIZZARD"  
THE RECENT "BLIZZARD" IN NEW YORK



A POLICEMAN RUBBING SNOW ON THE FROZEN EARS OF A PASSER-BY DURING THE STORM





M. TIRARD'S Ministry came to a sudden end last week, and has been followed by a Cabinet under M. Floquet. The rock upon which M. Tirard was wrecked was the old stumbling-block of the Revision of the Constitution, which has been the bugbear of so many Governments. A Bill proposing the Revision had been brought forward in the Chamber by M. Clemenceau and M. Camille Pelletan. The Cabinet opposed the measure being voted urgent, and was defeated by a majority of thirty-four votes. This result was unexpected, and, as M. Tirard had made the vote a question of confidence, the Ministers handed in their resignation to M. Carnot, who, after some consideration, summoned M. Floquet and requested him to form a Government. M. Floquet at once set to work to construct a Cabinet which, if possible, should win the good will both of the Moderates and the Radicals. He asked one ex-Premier, M. de Freycinet, to take the War Office, and another, M. Goblet, to take the direction of Foreign Affairs. M. Floquet became his own Home Minister and the portfolios of Finance, Public Instruction, Agriculture, Commerce, and Marine, were respectively allotted to MM. Peytral, Lockroy, Viette, Le-grand, and Admiral Krantz. Those of Justice and Public Works were at first accepted by M. Ricard and M. Loubet, both distinctly Moderates, but when the programme of the new Ministry came under discussion, they opposed any Revision proposal so strongly that they were ultimately replaced by men of a more Radical hue—MM. Ferrouillet and Deluns-Montand. On Tuesday M. Floquet read his profession of faith to the Chamber. In this he appealed to every section of Republicans, and declared that "the Government, which has no fear of any reform seriously worked out, only asks leave to take its place at the head of the Republican majority, to guide it in the route indicated, to establish in its ranks voluntary discipline, and thus to secure the progressive realisation of the hopes which the nation has placed in the Republic." M. Floquet, however, grown cautious on his advent to power, warned his followers that no "sudden transformations" could be promised, and, turning to the "Revision" question, declared with characteristic Ministerial diplomacy that such a step demanded "calmness and reflection," and asked, in order that so important a measure might not be compromised, that the Government should "be entrusted with the duty of indicating the propitious moment, and preparing the necessary understanding between the two Houses." Various measures, however, were promised immediately, a new Church and State Bill continuing the "work of secularisation," and financial and military reform Bills.

The new Ministry, however, has been very coldly received, and is not generally expected to have a very prolonged existence. M. de Freycinet, with his tendency towards bungling matters, is regarded as very unfit for the War Office; while M. Goblet is far too impulsive and aggressive to make a good Foreign Minister, particularly when succeeding such an admirable diplomatist as M. Flourens, who has done more to raise the foreign policy of France in the eyes of Europe than any Foreign Minister since the time of the Thiers Presidency. The Boulangerists are naturally in very high feather. They regard the downfall of the Tirard Ministry as a speedy and just retribution for the "persecution" of the adventurous General, who has issued a very pretentious address to the electors of the Nord Department, for which he is standing as candidate. In this he endeavours to calm the apprehensions which his warlike reputation has aroused by repeating the words he uttered when War Minister, "If I wanted war, I should be a madman; if I did not prepare for it, I should be a villain." He then vigorously denounces the Chamber, which he declares is no more understood by the country "than the Chamber is capable of understanding the country," and finally pronounces that there is only one remedy possible—"dissolution of the Chamber, with a Revision of the Constitution. It is in this direction that all my efforts will tend." An impression is fast growing up that General Boulanger will not be such a "dead head" in the Chamber as had been thought, and much apprehension is expressed that he may turn his evident popularity to account and attempt a *coup d'état* on his own account. History is wont to repeat itself, and people have not forgotten that Napoleon III. was once a disregarded and ridiculed pretender. To turn once more to the new Ministry, the Moderates are very angered at its composition, and even the usually sobersided *Journal des Debats* indulges in a violent attack upon M. Floquet, whom it terms "an empty-headed rhetorician, whose sole intellectual capital has been accumulated in political clubs; whose antecedents in a well regulated society have sufficed to place him beneath everything." He is also denounced as having been in rebellion against the State when an official, having been in turn Pole and Russian, Boulangerist and Anti-Boulangerist. "Let us not wait," cries the writer, "until a minority of wretches and madmen have completed the ruin of this country. Let us not wait until they have revived the Commune, and created another Dictatorship. Let us hasten, for it is yet time to snatch from their hands the fortune, the destinies,—ay, the very life of France." This article has made considerable stir in Paris, and it is evident that M. Floquet has no quiet time before him, and that he has not effected that Republican coalition, which is necessary to secure a sound majority in the Chamber. On Tuesday and Wednesday there was a sharp contest for the Presidency of the Chamber, left vacant by the accession to power of M. Floquet. The result was a tie between M. Clémenceau and M. Méline, a Moderate. The latter, being senior in age, was declared duly elected, according to the rules of the House.

GERMANY has received an Easter gift from her new Emperor in the form of an amnesty for minor political and criminal offences, though this does not extend to those condemned under the Socialist laws, or for high treason. The Emperor seems to be fairly keeping up his strength, and has been able to drive out in an open carriage through the streets of Berlin, receiving a tremendous ovation from the crowds which thronged Unter den Linden. Sir Morell Mackenzie was also warmly greeted, but the old Conservative organs continue to attack both him and the Emperor, being apparently unable to hide their disappointment that the late Emperor has not been succeeded by Prince William, who shared his grandfather's views and sentiments far more than the liberal-minded Frederick III. is known to have done. It is feared that the influence of the "Englishwoman," as the Empress is familiarly termed, will effect many changes in Prussian higher circles. It is manifest, however, that the Emperor contemplates no political revolution. In a rescript to the Minister of War he prefaces an order for altering certain drill regulations with the assurance: "Like his Majesty, my father, I shall devote my immediate and unremitting attention to my army;" while his relations with Prince Bismarck are most cordial in every sense of the word. That statesman attained his seventy-third year on Easter Sunday, and received the warmest congratulations from Emperor to peasant, the Empress sending Princess Bismarck a diamond bracelet as a *souvenir* of the occasion. In the evening there was a banquet, at which Prince Bismarck proposed the Emperor's health. The Crown Prince, in reply, likened the Empire to an army-corps which has lost its general in command in the campaign,

while its next officer in rank is lying severely wounded on his bed. "At this critical moment," he continued, "forty-six millions of true German hearts turn in anxiety and hope to the standard and its bearer, from whom all is expected; but the bearer of this standard is our illustrious Prince—our great Chancellor. Let him lead us. We will follow him. Long may he live!"—The Emperor has ordered steps to be taken to ascertain how the Berlin Dom can best be enlarged and converted into a Cathedral of such size and form as to be a credit and an ornament to Berlin, which the existing building is certainly not. This project will in all probability be connected with the scheme for raising a fitting memorial to the late Emperor, which we mentioned last week.—On Wednesday the Emperor published a message of thanks to the German nation for the "tokens of love and lamentation" which reached the bier of his late father from all parts of the Empire.

The ever-unsatisfactory aspect of Eastern affairs has not been bettered by the recent Ministerial crisis in ROUMANIA, which has resulted in the fall of M. Bratiano—by far the ablest statesman Roumania possesses—who for years has devoted his efforts to combatting the aggressive policy of Russia, and improving the relations of Roumania with Austria and other European Powers. He appears, however, to have been somewhat high-handed in matters of home policy, to have acted arbitrarily towards his opponents, and to have passed over certain corrupt and doubtful proceedings of his own partisans. Consequently, a popular agitation was organised against him, carefully fomented by the Russian Ambassador and the philo-Russian party, street demonstrations took place leading to considerable disorders, and, finally, M. Bratiano resigned, and Prince Ghika refusing, M. Rosetti was offered, and accepted, the Premiership, forming a Cabinet of Moderate Liberals and Young Conservatives. The joy of the philo-Russians, however, has been somewhat damped by the announcement of the King that the Ministry would only deal with internal matters, as he had determined to keep the direction of foreign affairs in his own hands, so that Russia will not find it so easy to obtain either that tacit or open connivance with her designs which is necessary for her to carry out her plans against the independence of the Balkan States. The New Foreign Minister also, M. Carp, possesses strong Austrian sympathies, and is not likely to advocate any military convention with the Russians, an Act which would be looked upon as fatal to the destinies of the Balkan Peninsula.

In ITALY the Abyssinian campaign has attracted renewed attention this week. First it was announced that a decisive battle was expected, and that the Negus was gathering together his forces for an attack in force upon the Italian positions. Then people were agreeably startled by the news that he had asked for terms of peace. These were at once proffered to him on three very simple conditions; firstly, that the present positions occupied by the Italian troops should be retained; secondly, that the Negus should not oppose the occupation of other points, where the troops could spend the hot season; and lastly, that the safety of the tribes which have requested Italian protection should be guaranteed. King John, however, replied that he could not, for the present, make peace on these conditions, but at the same time showed every disinclination to fight, as he immediately proceeded to break up his camp, and retired in the direction of Ghinda and Asmara. It is estimated that the Abyssinian army now in the field consists of the combined forces of Ras Alula, Ras Agos, Ras Area, and Ras Michael, and numbers between 80,000 and 90,000 men, most of whom are armed with breechloading rifles. The position of these forces in the plain of Sabarguma, before the Italian outposts, covered a front of over six miles, and the lines were a considerable depth. General San Marzano thinks that the reason of the Negu's refusal of these terms was that having assembled an enormous army, and proclaimed a holy war against the Italians, he feared to lose prestige by publicly concluding peace when at the head of a powerful army. On the other hand he retreated because he recognised the futility of attacking the Italian positions. Thus, though peace has not been overtly concluded, it is far from improbable that the Negus may effect a private "understanding" with the Italians, and "suspend" hostilities—for the present.

In INDIA Lord Dufferin left Calcutta last week, and as he will not return there before he leaves India, he received and paid the usual farewell visits. There was no hostile demonstration, an attempt to organise one having utterly failed. The Bengalee attacks on the British administration are being warmly rebuked by the more vigorous and warlike races of India. An old Rajpoot, speaking at Ajmere to a large assembly, recapitulated the sufferings of his countrymen under their former rulers, and declared that Rajpootana "could never forget the heavy debt of gratitude which she owed to the British Government for rescuing her from the clutches of bloodthirsty tyrants, and for restoring her prosperity." Sir Syed Ahmed has also delivered another noteworthy speech at Meerut. He warmly defended his utterances at Lucknow, and declared that he had no intention of stirring up race antagonism, his sole object being to prevent his co-religionists from being led into a political trap by being induced to take part in the so-called National Congress. "We do not want to become subjects of the Hindoos," he repeated. "Avoid abusing your rulers. Do not call Englishmen tyrants, and blacken columns after columns of the newspapers with such attacks. You can gain nothing in that way. God has made them your rulers, and we should be content with the will of God."—The Sikkim Expeditionary force is resting upon its laurels at Ling-tu, but Colonel Graham intends to remove his headquarters to Gnatong, five miles distant. It is rumoured that two thousand Tibetans are massing for the recapture of Ling-tu, and if this is the case the troops may have to move forward, though any advance would be resorted to only as a very last resource upon Tibetan territory.



THE Queen has been busy visiting the chief sites of interest in Florence, and exchanging calls with the various Royal personages staying in the city. Her Majesty, with Prince and Princess Henry, has been to the Uffizi Gallery and the Pitti Palace, and on Saturday morning witnessed the curious Florentine Easter Eve custom of the "Scoppio del Carro"—a display of fireworks opposite the Cathedral, lighted during High Mass by a mechanical dove which descends a wire from the top of the high altar to the Piazza outside. The Royal party watched the proceedings from an orphanage opposite, the Duke of Edinburgh and his son and the Queen of Serbia being also present. Prince and Princess Henry also witnessed the Maundy Thursday ceremony of washing the feet in the Cathedral. The Queen spent an afternoon with the King and Queen of Wurtemberg at Quarto, and has taken extensive drives round the Villa Palmieri, where Her Majesty usually walks in the gardens during the morning. On Good Friday and Easter Sunday the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, with Prince Alfred and Prince and Princess Henry, attended Divine Service in the Villa Palmieri, the Dean of Windsor officiating, and the Queen of Serbia calling on the Queen on Sunday, while on Monday afternoon the Royal party drove in the Cascine, where the chief members of Florentine Society

had assembled to greet Her Majesty. In the evening Her Majesty received Mr. D. Colnaghi, and on Tuesday drove in the Boboli Gardens with Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg. On Wednesday Her Majesty paid a long visit to Santa Croce. According to present arrangements the Queen will visit the Emperor and Empress of Germany at Potsdam on her return journey to England, arriving at Windsor on the 21st inst. During their stay in Florence the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh and their son either lunched or dined with the Queen daily, but the Duchess has now gone to Cannes, while the Duke and Prince Alfred have rejoined the Mediterranean Squadron. Prince and Princess Henry have also gone to Naples on a short visit, so that the Queen is temporarily alone with her suite in Florence. King Humbert and Queen Margherita arrived in Florence on Wednesday to see Her Majesty, and Queen Margherita will remain several days. Unfortunately, the Queen has not experienced her proverbial fine weather in Florence, much rain having fallen.—In remembrance of the Jubilee Her Majesty has given a fine silver-gilt altar-cross to St. George's Chapel, Windsor, which was used for the first time on Easter Day.—The Royal Maundy was distributed in the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, to sixty-nine aged men and sixty-nine old women, the number corresponding with the Queen's age, while other Easter bounties were given away to 1,000 of the aged London poor.

The Prince and Princess of Wales spent Easter at Sandringham, but did not arrive in Norfolk so early as usual for the holidays. They were in town on Maundy Thursday, when, with their family and the Danish Crown Prince and Princess, they witnessed the distribution of the Queen's Maundy at Whitehall, and Prince Albert Victor joined them from York. On Good Friday the Royal party attended Divine Service in the morning, and went to hear the "Messiah" at the Albert Hall in the evening; while on Saturday they all left town for Sandringham. Next morning the Prince and Princess, with their family and the Danish Crown Prince and Princess, attended the Easter Services at Sandringham Church, and they have since been spending the holidays quite quietly without visitors. To-day (Saturday) they will be present at the West Norfolk Hunt Steeplechases at East Winch, when the members of the Hunt will present the Prince and Princess with a Silver Wedding gift of plate.—Before leaving town, the Prince and Princess went the round of the most important London studios, and the Princess dined with Madame Norman-Néruda to meet some of the chief musicians of the day. The Prince and Princess of Wales will go to Scotland on 7th May to be present at the opening of the Glasgow Exhibition, and to receive the presentation of a Corporation address enclosed in a silver casket. The Prince and Princess will be the guests of Lord and Lady Hamilton at Dalziel House. The Princess of Wales has fixed May 14 as the day for the opening of the Anglo-Danish Exhibition.—The Crown Prince and Princess of Denmark left Sandringham on Tuesday on their return to Denmark.

The children of the Duke and Duchess of Connaught arrived in London on Tuesday evening.—The Empress of Austria and the Archduchess Valérie are still in London as most active sight-seers. They spent most of Saturday, as Easter Eve, in church, and after Mass on Sunday morning they went to Brighton for the day. On Tuesday evening the Empress, with her daughter, witnessed a performance at Drury Lane.—The Duchess of Albany's only brother, the Hereditary Prince of Waldeck-Pyrmont, is suffering from a severe attack of scarlatina, whilst staying with his eldest sister, the Princess of Bentheim. The Duchess attended a brief commemorative service at her husband's tomb at Windsor last week on the anniversary of his death.—The King of Sweden will shortly join the Queen in England, after visiting Italy and Portugal, where he will take a short tour with King Luis, the two monarchs being friends from their youth.—Prince Henry of Prussia and Princess Irene of Hesse will be married on May 2nd.



BIRMINGHAM TRIENNIAL FESTIVAL.—The draft programme of this Festival has just been issued. It is by no means the pretentious document that was expected, and in comparison with Birmingham Festival programmes of the past fifteen or twenty years it may seem rather tame. Nor must it be understood that in forming their schemes more or less of well-known works, the Birmingham Festival Committee give their adhesion to the new ideas of old writers, who pretend that the public appreciation for fresh works of importance has been exaggerated. The Birmingham Festival Committee had hoped to produce new oratorios by Antonin Dvorák (it was suggested on Cardinal Newman's *St. Gerontius*), and another new oratorio by Dr. A. C. Mackenzie on the subject of *Moses*. But Dvorák is for the present dissatisfied with the more or less justifiable rejection by English audiences of his too-lengthy work *St. Ludmila*, and declines just now to write for Birmingham, and Dr. Mackenzie could not finish his own oratorio in time. It is, indeed, doubtful whether it will be ready for the Leeds Festival next year, as the composer, besides his newly-accepted duties as Principal of the Royal Academy of Music, has in hand a symphony for Dr. Richter and a new opera to a libretto by Mr. Robert Buchanan for Mr. Carl Rosa. The only novelties for the Birmingham Festival will accordingly be an hour's cantata, *Judith and Holofernes*, by Dr. Hubert Parry; a still shorter work by Dr. Bridge, of Westminster Abbey; and an even less important composition by Mr. G. Thomas. There will be three miscellaneous programmes, the most interesting things in which will be symphonies by Beethoven and Haydn, and among the other works to be performed are *Elijah*, *Messiah*, *Saul*, and *The Golden Legend*, Bach's *Magnificat*, Berlioz's *Messe des Morts*, and Dvorák's *Stabat Mater*. Mesdames Albani, Trebelli, and Patey, Miss Anna Williams, Messrs. Lloyd and Santley are engaged, and Dr. Richter will conduct. Under the circumstances, such a programme is unavoidable. But for a Birmingham Festival it cannot in any way be considered a strong prospectus.

JUVENILE PRODIGES.—Little Hofmann has now arrived in England, and his father is understood to have determined that the boy shall be withdrawn for two or three years from public life. This resolve, if persisted in, will be maintained under circumstances of great provocation. For it seems that the reports which have been cabled across the Atlantic that Hofmann was to be paid 10,000l. by a benevolent music-lover to retire for a time from the platform are a mere snare. The alleged donor is now said to be a "crank"—or, otherwise, a person afflicted with a "bee in the bonnet"—and does not even possess the money which should be forthcoming. However, the elder Hofmann avers he has saved out of the boy's profits quite sufficient for Little Hofmann's education, and we can only hope that, if the lad's health is really affected, he will not be allowed to appear in England till he is older.—Little Otto Hegner at his second public recital more than justified the high opinion that had previously been formed about him. A third recital is announced next week, but the programme is chiefly composed of the works the boy has played before. The obvious supposition, therefore, is either that Hegner's repertory is limited to a very extraordinary degree, or that the management do not allow the lad's strength yet to be fully shown.



**CHESTER TRIENNIAL FESTIVAL.**—This Festival will be held July 25th and 27th, under the direction of Dr. Bridge, of Chester Cathedral. The programme will include Mendelssohn's *Elijah* and *Lo'gesang*, Verdi's *Requiem*, Sullivan's *Golden Legend*, Gounod's *Redemption*, Beethoven's *Mount of Olives*, and various smaller works, including a couple of motets by Mr. Oliver King.

**CONCERTS (VARIOUS).**—The most interesting concert of the past week was that given, on Saturday, at the Crystal Palace, when Liszt's pupil, Miss Martha Remmert, made her real *début* in this country, she having before appeared only at a scantily-attended recital given in the midst of the Jubilee *fêtes* last year. Miss Remmert is pianist to the Grand Duke of Saxe-Weimar, and she appears to be a player of the advanced school. Her talent is, however, undoubted, and in Germany and Russia she has won great repute.—We need only barely mention the Good Friday performances, which included sacred concerts at the Crystal Palace and St. James's Hall, and the *Messiah* at the Albert Hall.—On Saturday a series of miscellaneous concerts at cheap prices was begun at the Albert Hall, and when the programmes are improved they bid fair to be even still more popular.—On Easter Monday a holiday concert was given at the Albert Hall, and, among others, Miss "Nikita" and Mr. Sims Reeves appeared.—During Easter, and, indeed, till towards the end of next week concerts, will (save at the Crystal Palace) be suspended.

**KARL FORMES.**—This veteran *basso* is now certainly seventy-two years of age, although the musical dictionaries state he is five years older. He has within the past few days returned to England, and it is not improbable that he will make his *rentrée* at the Royal Italian Opera in the course of the forthcoming season. We can say, from the evidence of hearing, that this fine old *basso profundo* retains the full power of his voice, so far, at any rate, as its lower notes (he can go down to the double C below the staff) are concerned, and the reappearance on the stage of so aged a singer will doubtless excite much curiosity. It is nearly half a century since he made his *début*, and just twenty years since he last appeared here. He has since made an excellent position in California as a teacher, and he brings with him to London a young wife—a soprano, and one of the best of his American pupils.

**NOTES AND NEWS.**—We are informed that Mr. Wilson Barrett will probably produce drama at Her Majesty's Theatre at Whitsuntide. If this be true, any opposition to the Royal Italian Opera may be considered as at an end.—Mr. Ambrose Austin, after thirty years at St. James's Hall, is about to retire from the position of management. A testimonial concert is accordingly being organised, and among those who have promised to appear on June 13th are Mesdames Albani, Valleria, Patey, Sterling, and Trebelli, Messrs. Sims Reeves, Lloyd, Maybrick, Santley, Cusins, and Richter.—We are informed that Miss Nikita has been engaged by Mr. Augustus Harris for the season of the Royal Italian Opera.—Mr. Kuhé, the veteran *impresario* of Brighton, is, without severing his association with the fashionable watering-place, about to take up his abode permanently in London.—Next June Madame Albani will sing for the fifth time at the Handel Festival, Madame Valleria for the third time, Madame Patey for the seventh, Madame Trebelli for the sixth, and Mr. Santley (the *doyen* of the Festival) for the ninth time. As these Festivals have (save on one occasion) been triennial, the appearances of the various artists necessarily extend over a large series of years, and the facts prove at any rate that the British public are faithful to their old favourites.—Dr. von Bülow has, after all, declined to conduct at the Philharmonic concerts. Dr. Joachim delayed his return to Berlin in order to play the violin at Sir Frederick Leighton's reception on Good Friday.



**MESSRS. WILLS AND GRUNDY'S *The Pompadour***, although unquestionably founded upon the German play of *Narcisse*, which the performances of Herr Bandmann have made familiar to English audiences, owes little save the leading idea to the piece from which it is derived. For the sake of dramatic effect, it pleased Brachvogel to represent that the proud mistress of Louis XV., who governed France for more than twenty years during the reign of that most contemptible of princes, had married in early life a sort of vagrant musician, Rameau, a nephew of the composer of the same name. Of this Rameau nothing appears to be known except that, if Diderot is to be believed, a constant struggle to exist by his wits had embittered him against the world, and made him utter sentiments which seemed to imply a complete absence of moral perception. The life of Madame de Pompadour is, of course, too well known to allow this alleged marriage to have even a possibility of foundation in historic fact, but it served the purpose for which it was intended—that of contrasting the position of the poor, shifty, penniless, half-starved man of genius with that of the wife who raises herself so near a throne by her profligacy, and also of bringing about a dramatic *dénouement* which is a palpable plagiarism upon Hamlet's play of *The Mouse Trap*. Messrs. Wills and Grundy have further complicated the plot by introducing a son of Rameau and Madame de Pompadour, and making her death result from the shock she receives at the discovery that this son is no other than a young man whom she has insisted shall be shot for having openly flouted her and taunted her with her profligacy before all the Court. The fortunes of this young man, and his love for the young lady-in-waiting, Mademoiselle de Boufflers, inspire but a languid interest. The action really centres in the vagabond musician and his erring spouse, as represented by Mr. and Mrs. Beerbohm Tree. The character played by Mr. Tree is not altogether unlike that of Gringoire in M. de Banville's play, which he has recently been performing. It is wild and weird and picturesque, but the sentimental ravings of this half-crazy creature are, if the truth must be told, rather apt to become wearisome. A lengthy address to a little nodding figure of a Chinese pagoda, a fashionable toy of the period in which the action takes place, must have sorely tried the patience of the audience. Mrs. Tree acts gracefully as the Pompadour, although the character is made unnecessarily odious, and hence, while she fills so important a place in the piece, it is impossible that she can inspire any genuine sympathy. As a spectacle the production is more satisfactory than as a play. The rich, solidly-built interiors of the Palace of Versailles, with their thousand and one details suggestive of the taste of the period, and the beautiful reproductions of the pleasure-grounds of the Duke de Choiseul are really beyond praise. With the inner social life of the times the authors appear to be imperfectly acquainted. The age was, above all, one of formality and high-flown compliments, and assuredly Voltaire, Diderot, and Grimm would never have been received in courtly circles if their conversation had consisted entirely, as one would be led to infer, in ill-natured and even insolent jests at the expense of each other and the rest of the company, not excepting the great Pompadour herself.

At the CRYSTAL PALACE *Too Lovely Black-Ey'd Susan*—a new burlesque perversion of Douglas Jerrold's well-known drama—has been produced for Easter. The libretto is written by Mr. Horace Lennard, and the music composed and arranged under the direction

of Mr. Oscar Barrett. There is plenty of brisk, nonsensical fun in the piece. Mr. Dan Leno makes a humorous Susan, Miss Fanny Leslie a bright and lively William, Miss Dot Mario an engagingly jealous "Dolly," Mr. Frank M. Wood, a traditionally villainous smuggler, Miss Kate James a characteristically "knowing" "costermonger," and Mr. Frank Ayrtton an amusingly "mechanical" Captain Crosstree. The dancing throughout is exceptionally good.

## THE EASTER VOLUNTEER MANŒUVRES

WITH THE CYCLIST CORPS

IT seems to be very generally believed by newspaper critics that the work of the Cyclists Corps in connection with the Easter Manœuvres was a failure. But this is not really so: the failure is only apparent. The results obtained are of the greatest value, for it has been practically demonstrated what part cyclists can play in military operations. Last year, as I have said before, Colonel Savile was favoured with good roads, good weather, and good riders. This year he enjoyed none of these conditions—absolutely necessary to make an impressive showing.

When the corps assembled at Guildford Station on Good Friday morning, the brand-new uniforms of many of the sections were very striking. The flying sapper of the Bristol Engineers looked most business-like; but before the corps had made the ten miles between Guildford and Farnham, on the very sticky road which will most likely be found after every heavy rain, it was seen that the cyclists had absolutely no idea of marching in any sort of order whatever. The 26th Middlesex, which formed the advance guard, got in in very good form, though on the way they lost one man. The Bristol Engineers, before they had proceeded half the way, utterly wrecked their flying sapper, a multi-cycle resembling the type with which the Government has been supplied. They had, indeed, broken it the day before, and had been up all night trying to repair it. The Maxim gun of the 26th Middlesex, which was mounted by three riders, and from which so much had been expected, was utterly unmanageable, and had to be abandoned altogether. This is the strongest proof of the uselessness of all these multi-cycles designed to carry a large number of men or a great weight. The 26th Middlesex was the only section which covered the first ten miles between Guildford and Farnham in any sort of form, many of the riders in other sections proving themselves to be cyclists only in name; while the whole column of about ninety men must, at times, have stretched out over nearly a mile of country. The advance guard was not only out of sight of, but out of touch with the main body. Colonel Savile, realising that the force at this rate would never reach Salisbury, promptly entrained his men and took them to Winchester, giving up the original idea of marching on Salisbury in two columns.

After arriving at Winchester by train from Farnham the cyclists took the road to Salisbury in the face of a tremendous rain and wind storm. But before they had reached Stockbridge, between eight and nine miles away, Colonel Savile had lost nearly forty of his men; and it took the head of the column about five hours to make the twenty-two miles between Winchester and Salisbury. Of course this is faster than would be possible for infantry; but cavalry on a forced march like this would have made quite as good, if not better time. The head of the column was halted for some time at the Pheasant Inn, about five miles from Salisbury, to close up, and with the First and Second Gloucestershire acting as advance guard, moved on Lord Pembroke's position, near St. Thomas' Bridge. Lord Pembroke had thrown out some cyclist scouts who, concealing themselves behind the brow of a hill, watched unobserved Colonel Savile's march, and counted his men as they struggled and straggled up the hill. When the First Gloucester came within fifty or sixty yards of its brow, the scouts silently rushed away, never having been seen by Colonel Savile's force, and reported his strength to Lord Pembroke. The 26th Middlesex was the only section which arrived on the ground as a body.

The road was so bad that the men had to walk up all, and down many, of the hills, while in places they were obliged to walk on the grass by the roadside, pushing or carrying their machines. There were many breakdowns, Colonel Savile's cycle coming to grief, while Lieutenant Bruno Holmes had three "Safeties" killed under him. It is very wonderful that there were not more serious accidents to the men themselves.

Next day Captain Hughes took the part of the defending force, while Colonel Savile represented the invader. The former moved out of Stockbridge, and took up his position on Houghton Down to oppose the enemy's advance. So well had they posted themselves, that Colonel Savile's force came within range on the sky line, and only discovered their presence when they opened fire. A dashing effort was made by the 26th Middlesex to gain a more advanced position by riding down the face of the hill on their machines under a deadly fire at two hundred and fifty yards' range. Upon arriving at the bottom, it was found that none of their rifles had been unslung from their machines, an operation which would have taken a minute or two. The consequence was they were declared out of action, and sent to the rear.

Colonel Savile's force soon after entered Stockbridge and paraded in the High Street. Two other skirmishes were later held between Stockbridge and Winchester, in both of which it was seen that cyclists forming a rear guard, if the roads were good—which of course they would not be after an army had passed over them—could compel an advancing body of cyclists to dismount, deploy, and so be drawn away from their machines, while the rear guard, retiring with their cycles, would lead them on, and then compel them to return, get their machines, and ride over exactly the same ground. After the third skirmish, the rear guard rode away to Winchester, and there was no further action. From this town Colonel Savile again took his men by train to Farnham. This ended the first stage of the cyclist's manœuvres.

As to the second stage; the ride from Guildford to Dover, as an example of moving a body of cyclists, proves nothing—the men being allowed to go as they chose. Some went by train on one railway, some on another; some, like the 26th Middlesex, who formed the advance guard, rode off very well together, the Bristol Engineers bringing up the rear, though they left the really important part of their pioneer equipments behind. The object was to reach Ashford on Sunday night, and thence go slowly into Dover on Monday morning. The Corps was personally inspected by the Commander-in-Chief, and highly commended for its appearance and work, the Duke specially praising the ride made since Saturday night (the only unimportant part). They were given the head of the line in the march past, and returned home covered with mud and glory.

One critic, whose opinions are of great weight, makes the mistake of saying that the value of the operations was lessened by the bad weather. I think, on the contrary, that it was increased, since it has been shown exactly what can be accomplished by cyclists under unfavourable circumstances. As a matter of fact, none of Colonel Savile's ideas were entirely, or even successfully, carried out, and the reason is perfectly simple. The fault did not lie in the cycles, nor even altogether with the weather. The whole trouble was that the men were untrained. In order to have a valuable corps of cyclists, the men must be trained and made to work as are the regulars. Without this, no satisfactory result can be obtained. And yet it hardly can be expected that cyclists who can ride well enough for this purpose will give up the amount of time necessary, and sacrifice their pleasure in their holidays, to the constant drilling and training indispensable if they would keep themselves in proper condition.

JOSEPH PENNELL



1.

THE paper in this April *Century* with most personal interest in it is that by Mr. Henry James on "Robert Louis Stevenson," of whom a portrait is given. Mr. James is a warmly appreciative and discriminating critic of his brother novelist, and has evidently devoted a careful and earnest study to his works. Mr. James thinks that if things had gone differently with Mr. Stevenson he might have been an historian of famous campaigns—a great painter of battle pieces, such is the capacity for emotion in him, "despite the insinuation that he is primarily a chiseler of prose."—Mr. Theodore Roosevelt supplies another of his richly illustrated papers on ranch life with "The Round-Up."—In "Bird Music," Mr. Simeon Pease Cheney gives us observations of blue-birds and robins' songs made in and about a grove of maples in a valley of south-eastern Vermont. He finds bird music akin to our own, and that the same intervals are used as in the major and minor keys; and has noticed that the farewell of the robin is very similar in style to his first salute in the spring.—Mr. James Lane Allen has a good humorous story of Southern grandees and negroes in "Two Kentucky Gentlemen of the Old School."

The frontispiece of *Harper* is a fine engraving, from a drawing by Mr. Alfred Parsons, in illustration of Wordsworth's sonnet, "The Shepherd looking eastward softly said," and is an effective moonlight picture.—The most noticeable feature in the magazine is, perhaps, M. Coquelin's "Acting and Authors." He insists on the importance of the use of the eye in acting, and has not a high opinion of back effects (*effets de dos*), though he quaintly remarks, "Certain actors, whom nature has favoured from the plastic point of view, have a liking for these effects." Among the illustrations are several amusing pen and ink sketches, in which Sardou and Sarah Bernhardt figure together.—There are some pretty pictures of the Algerian fair in Mr. T. A. Bridgman's "A Winter in Algiers," while Mr. F. Anstey and Mr. Frederick Barnard pleasantly collaborate to produce "The Humours of the Minor Theatre." The former gentleman suggests that "those who are not too cultivated to find a certain pleasure in seeing the utterly ridiculous presented with a naïveté and unconsciousness that are almost touching, might employ an evening to worse purpose than paying a visit to a minor theatre."

The first portion of what is a clever and pathetic story is begun in *Cornhill* with "Mr. Sandford," and "How We Married the Major" is of a rollicking, if somewhat rough humour.—"Some Mistranslations" contains many amusing instances of ambitious incapacity. For example, a translator of Shakespeare renders "so woe-begone," *Ainsi, dou, cur, va-t-en*. Again, we have the term "Welsh rabbit," in a novel of Sir Walter Scott, turned in French into "*un lapin du pays de Galles*."—The history of a famous guide-book is well told in "Bradshaw."

The *English Illustrated Magazine* has taken time by the forelock with reference to the great tercentenary of the year, and the *pièce de résistance* of this number is a capital paper on "The Spanish Armada," by Mr. W. H. K. Wright. The illustrations are taken from drawings of the old tapestry hangings of the House of Lords; tapestries unhappily destroyed in the great fire which burned down the Houses of Parliament on October 16th, 1834. They were of great historical value as, according to Pennant, they were "bespoke by the Earl of Nottingham, Lord High Admiral and Commander-in-Chief on the glorious day."—"Glimpses of English Homes" is continued this month with "Arundel Castle," of which several charming views are given.

The frontispiece of the *Magazine of Art* is an etching in which all the rich humorosity of Herr Ed. Grützner's painting of "The Master Brewer" is well seized and brought out.—Mr. W. P. Frith, R.A., will be read with pleasure on "Crazes in Art," "Pre-Raphaelitism," and "Impressionism."—"A Personal View of Japanese Art," by Mr. Mortimer Menpes, is a capital paper, and he introduces the reader to Khiosi in such a way as to make him feel on quite an intimate and sympathetic footing with the Japanese master. Mr. Menpes does not think that the Japanese authority exaggerated much who said "that the only living art of to-day is the art of Japan."

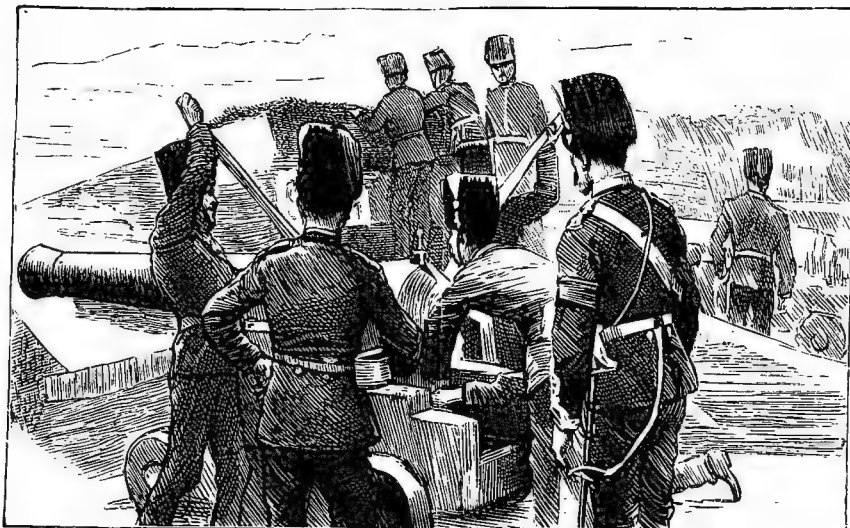
The *Art Journal* has for its frontispiece a fine sea piece, "Catching a Mermaid," engraved from Mr. J. C. Cook, R.A.'s picture by Mr. C. Cousen.—Readers of this magazine will cordially welcome back in its columns MM. Villars and Myrbuch who, after a long interval, resume their admirable series of papers entitled, "A Foreign Artist and Author in England." In this number they treat of their impressions of Oxford.—Mr. Henry Wallis takes the reader on a very instructive tour round "The Boulaq Museum," and Mr. F. G. Stephens writes agreeably of "A Modern Private Collection."



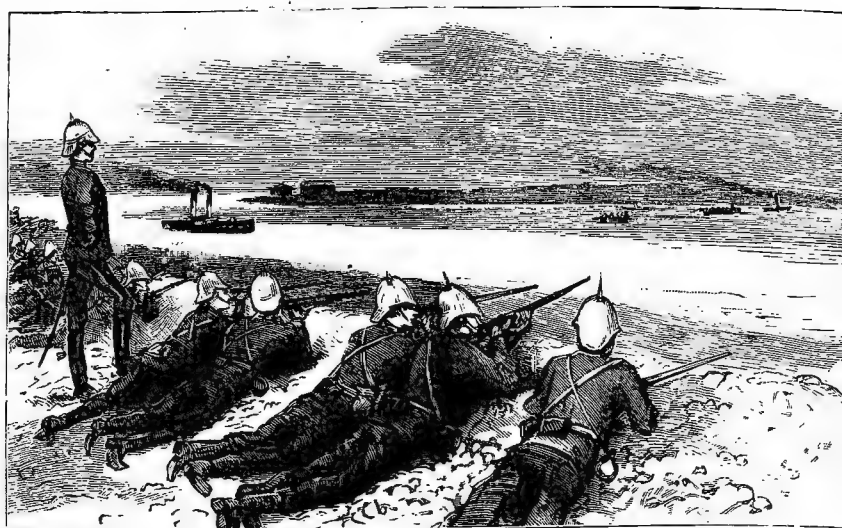
**THE TURF.**—There have been at least a dozen meetings of more or less importance since we last wrote, but happily most of them call for little comment. The Prince of Wales won a race with Hohenlinden at the Household Brigade Steeplechases at Sandown, a feat which Prince Albert Victor was unable to accomplish with Paddy at the Cavalry Brigade Meeting at Aldershot.—At Nottingham Veracity added to his Lincolnshire honours by winning the Spring Handicap, and Spearmint secured the Portland Plate.—At Winchester Flanerie added two races, and Nubble Bux one, to their recent successes. Puzzle won the Public Sale Stakes at Windsor on Saturday, and Cockenzie the County Welter Handicap.—Easter Monday saw meetings at Manchester, Kempton, Four Oaks, and Gosforth Park. At Manchester, Flanerie scored again and those disappointing animals, Spahi and Sachem, for a wonder were successful; the Easter Handicap at Kempton, run over the capital New Mile Course, which was used for the first time, was taken by M.P.; while in the race of the same name at Four Oaks, Watts, who rode three winners during the afternoon, steered Going Away to victory. On the first day at Gosforth Park Fisherfield won the Juvenile Plate and Keraunos the All-Aged Selling Plate; on the second day the latter scored again in the Brunton Plate, while Spearmint followed up his Nottingham success in the Spring Handicap. On Tuesday at Manchester Dan Dancer won the Jubilee Handicap Hurdle Race, and Lady Lothian the Easter Handicap Steeplechase. The chief races at the Northampton Meeting on Tuesday were the Althorp Park Stakes for two year olds, won by Eros, and Earl Spencer's Plate, secured by Shimmer: on the second were the Great Northampton Stakes, in which Oliver Twist, Decision, and Abu Klea (who started favourite) were 1, 2, 3, respectively, and the Auction Stakes, won by Anodyne. For the Leicestershire Handicap, run to-day (Saturday) Oberon is, at the time of writing, a warm favourite, while in the betting on the City and Suburban (run next Wednesday) Merry Hampton occupies the premier position.

**FOOTBALL.**—The Corinthians have not done nearly so well as usual this season. In their recent Easter tour they were defeated by

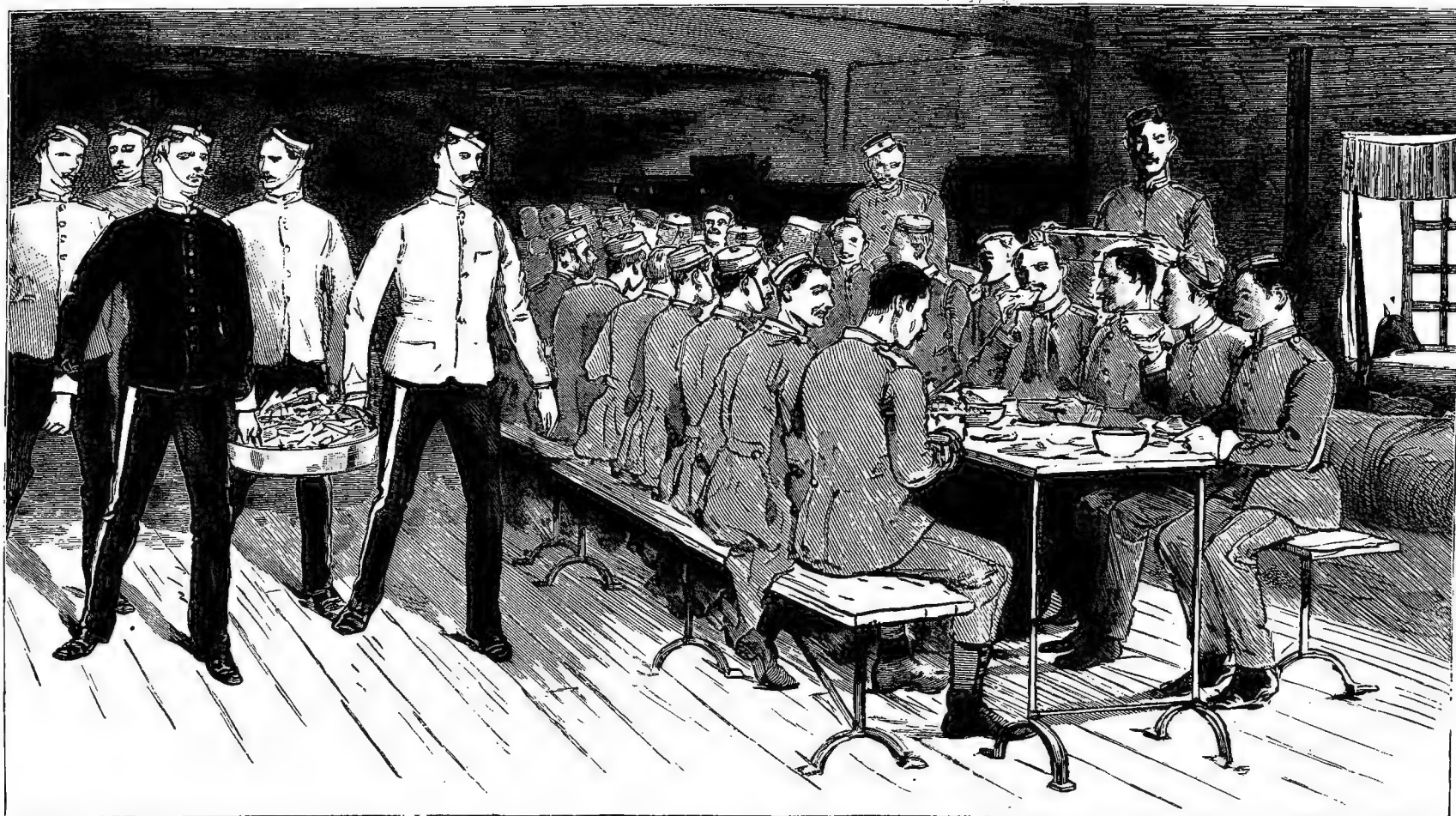




REPELLING THE ATTACK ON HAYLING ISLAND

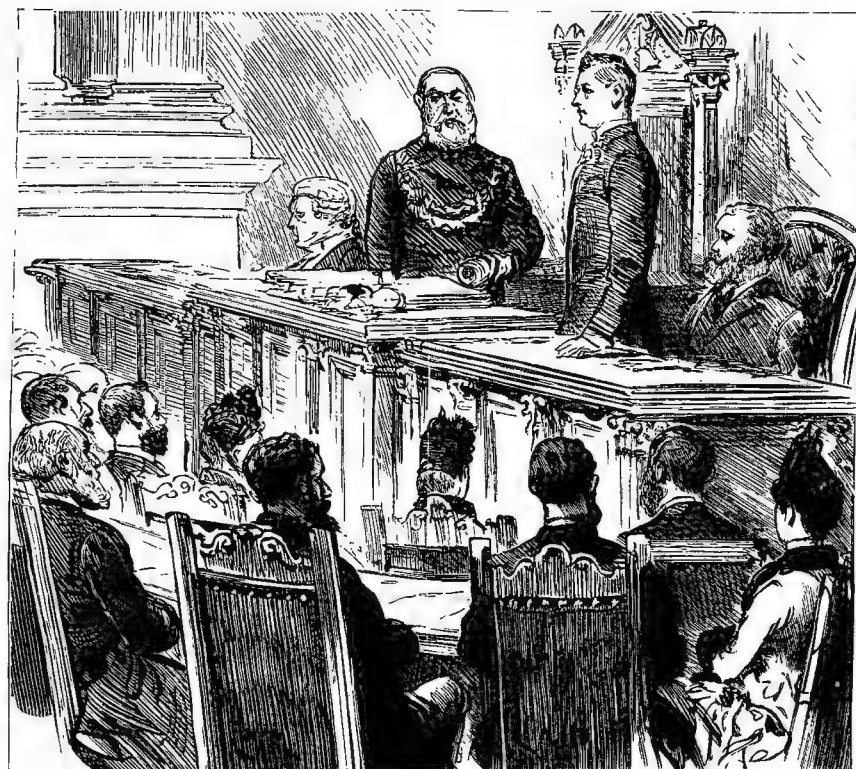
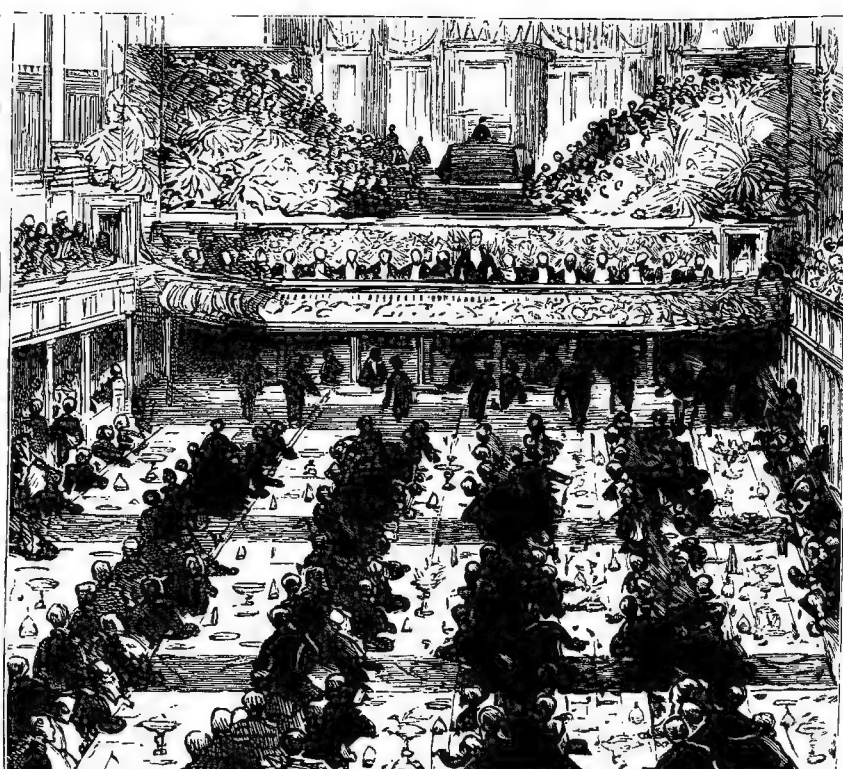


THE ATTACK ON HAYLING ISLAND FROM THE SEA



THE QUEEN'S WESTMINSTER RIFLE VOLUNTEERS AT DINNER IN EASTNEY BARRACKS

THE EASTER VOLUNTEER MANŒUVRES AT PORTSMOUTH

PRESENTATION OF THE FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH OF BIRMINGHAM TO  
MR. CHAMBERLAIN IN THE COUNCIL HOUSE

THE BANQUET IN THE TOWN HALL—MR. CHAMBERLAIN SPEAKING

RECEPTION OF THE RIGHT HON. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, M.P., AT BIRMINGHAM, ON HIS RETURN FROM THE UNITED STATES





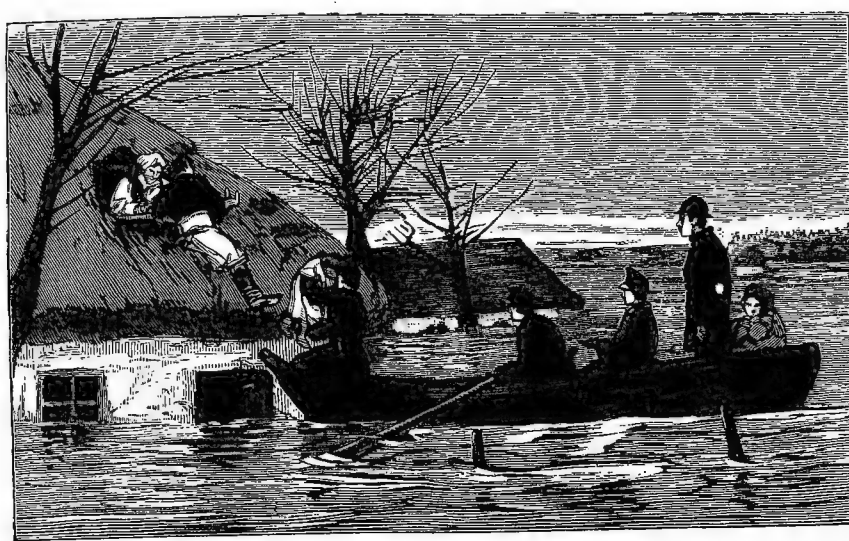
COLONEL W. H. TAPP  
3rd Battalion, Egyptian Army  
Killed March 4, at Suakim, while leading his Men to the Attack



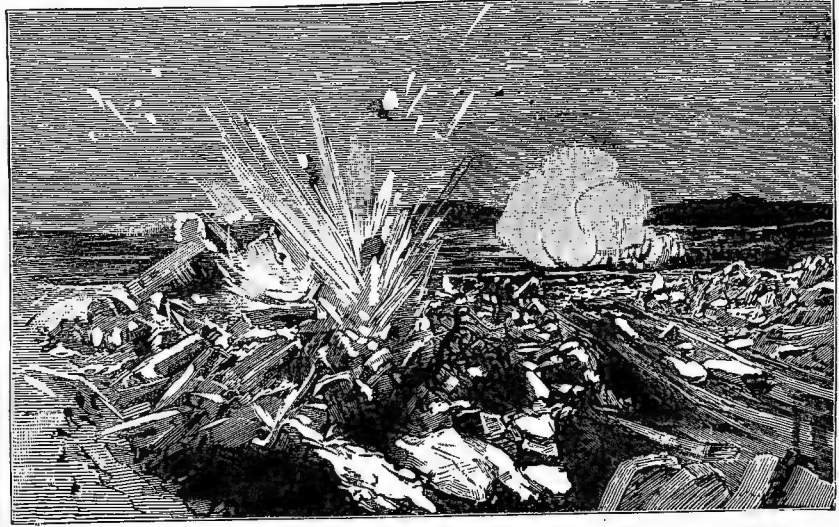
BARGASH BIN SAID, G.C.M.G.  
Sultan of Zanzibar  
Born 1837. Died March 25, 1883



MR. D. A. THOMAS  
New Gladstonian M.P. for Merthyr Tydvil

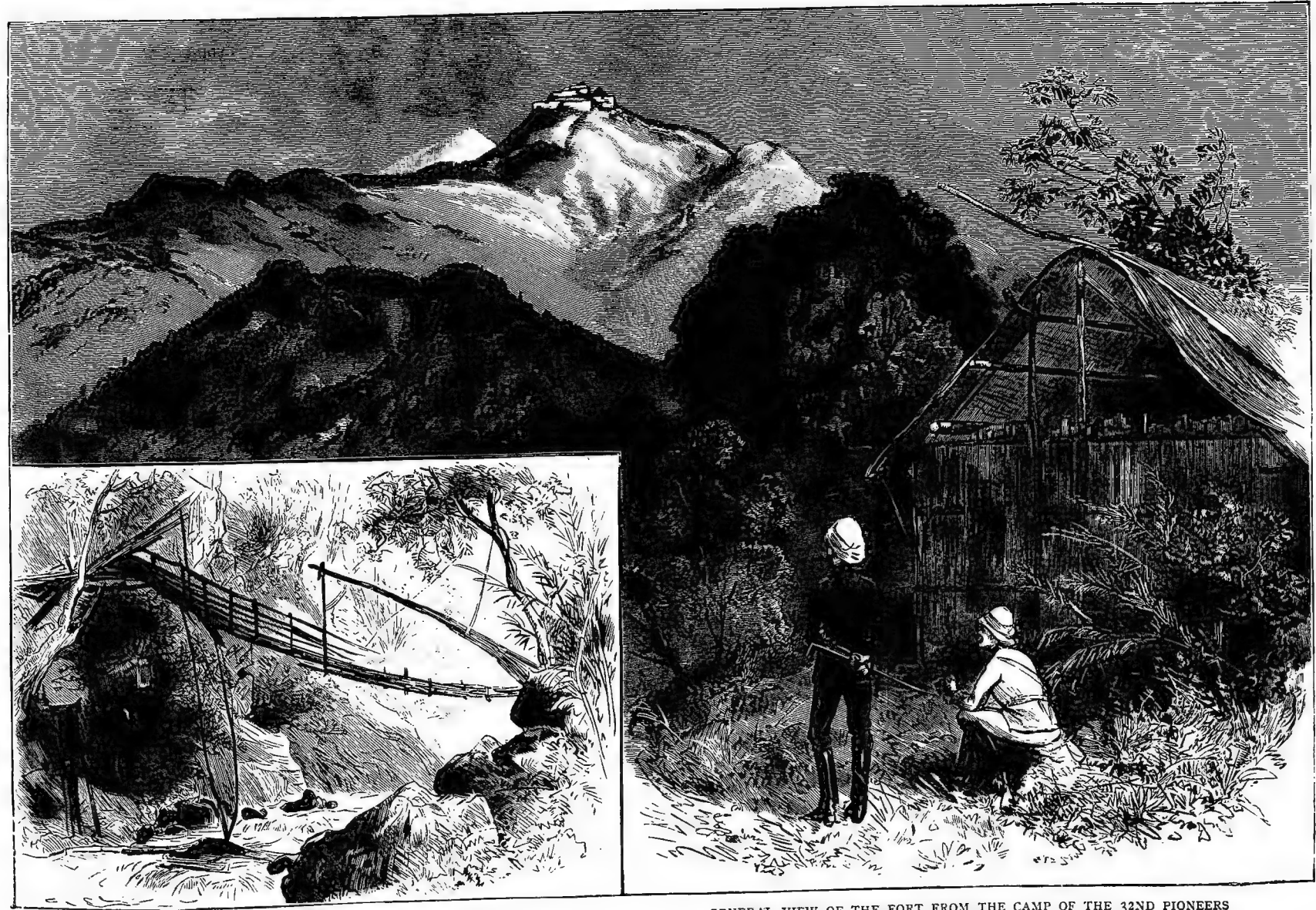


RESCUING A FAMILY FROM THE ROOF OF THEIR HOUSE, MOGILA



AUSTRIAN ARTILLERY DEMOLISHING BY CANNON SHOT A DAM OF ICE ON THE VISTULA, AT NIEPOLOMICE

THE RECENT FLOODS IN GALICIA



OLD BAMBOO BRIDGE ACROSS THE RONGLI CHU ON THE ROAD FROM THE CAMP TO THE FORT

GENERAL VIEW OF THE FORT FROM THE CAMP OF THE 32ND PIONEERS

WITH THE SIKKIM EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, NORTHERN INDIA—THE CAPTURE OF FORT LINGTU  
FROM SKETCHES BY AN OFFICER OF THE EXPEDITION



Aston Villa, Blackburn Rovers, and Preston North End. The last-named seem determined not to be beaten any more this season. They have beaten since we last wrote both Accrington and Dumbarton Athletic. West Bromwich Albion have not done so well since their success at the Oval. They were beaten by the 3rd Lanark R.V., and could only make a draw with the Wolverhampton Wanderers in the final tie of the Staffordshire Cup. The Swifts won the London Charity Cup on Saturday for the second year in succession, beating the Casuals in the final. Queen's Park, who seem to be recovering some of their old form, have lately defeated Aston Villa and the 3rd Lanark R.V.

**BILLIARDS.**—Roberts and Peall both won their spot-barred matches last week against McNeill and North respectively. On Monday an interesting match between the pair commences at the Billiard Hall. Roberts is to play spot-barred, while Peall is to be allowed not more than 100 spots in a break. We shall expect to see the latter victorious, though not by much. This week he is getting his hand in by playing White, while Roberts is playing Sala.—Mr. H. A. O. Lonsdale, of Manchester, won the National Amateur Championship.

**CRICKET.**—The season should have begun on Easter Monday with the Nottingham Colts Match, but not surprisingly it has been postponed.—Some important changes in the laws are to be recommended by the Committee at the next meeting of the M.C.C. Five-ball overs are to be bowled in all matches; on the last day of a match a side may at any time declare its innings at an end; and bowlers are to be allowed to change ends as often as they please, provided they do not bowl two consecutive overs. All these alterations will tend to shorten matches, and to prevent draws, and are therefore to be commended.

**CYCLING.**—W. Wood, of North Shields, beat Howell in a fifteen miles race for 50*l.* a side on Saturday, but the latter turned the tables on his conqueror in the Ten Miles' Professional Championship on Easter Monday. The One Mile Championship also fell to Wood.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**—Kemp beat Clifford in Australia for the Sculling Championship of the World, resigned by Beach.—The Canadian Team seems a good deal too good for our lacrosse players. At present they have met and defeated Owen's College, South Manchester, and combined teams of Yorkshire and Cheshire and Yorkshire and Notts.—As has frequently happened, Oxford won the Single Inter-University Racquet Match after losing the Doubles. Butler was unable to play for the Light Blues, and Buxton, who took his place, was defeated by Philipson by three games to love.



SEVERAL IMPORTANT CHANGES in the law of Employers' Liability are made in the new Bill on the subject, which has been introduced by the Home Secretary, and which repeals the Act of 1880. Among them are the following:—An agreement whereby a workman contracts himself out of the Act is to be void, unless the employer undertakes to make an adequate contribution towards such an insurance of the workman from the consequences of accidents during his employment as will give him a benefit equivalent to the compensation recoverable under the Act. A seaman is in certain cases now included among those entitled to benefit by the Act; and also "every person employed in or about a public conveyance by land, or in or about a vessel engaged in inland navigation, as if he were a workman." In a case reported some time since in this column, it was decided that an omnibus-driver could not avail himself of the Act. It is only where the injury has resulted in death that the workman's representatives have now a right to compensation. The new Bill confers on them that right, whether the workman's death is or is not directly due to the injury received. It also provides that actions may be brought against the representatives of an employer who has died.

"AN IRISH CROWN PROSECUTOR," in a letter to the *Times* comments on a supposed statement in an imperfectly reported speech of Sir Henry James, which seemed to imply that in criminal cases an "ingenuity" to secure a conviction is exercised by prosecuting counsel in Ireland which is unknown in England. In reply, it is urged, that it is common in Ireland for the prisoner, when not caught in the act, to set up Mr. Weller, senior's, favourite defence, and put forth an elaborate and carefully constructed plea of *alibi*, and it is asked whether counsel are not justified in using their "ingenuity" to test the truth of these *alibis* by cross-examination. Striking and amusing instances of *alibi*-swearing and of the detection of its falsehood are added. In a Kerry case the other day an *alibi*-witness swore that he could depose to a particular hour because he had looked at the clock. The prosecuting counsel handed him his watch, and it turned out that he could not tell the time by looking at it. Another witness swore that he knew the hour because he heard his clock strike, and he counted the strokes. The same counsel sent off to the witness's house, and it was discovered that the clock had not struck for years.

A CHARGE of fraudulently obtaining money by advertising as vacant situations which had no existence was brought, under singular circumstances, at the Birmingham Police Court against William Hastings Toone, *alias* Tamplin, of London, identified as the son of a late Major Toone, who died worth 80,000*l.* He pretended to be the agent of a large commercial company now forming, and in a most plausible advertisement promised clerkships in its employment, with salaries beginning at 150*l.* a year to successful applicants, a preliminary fee on application being required. He found a vast number of dupes, and, when visited by the police, he admitted that the commercial company was a myth, but asserted that the whole affair was a joke, into which he had entered for a wager. This statement was so far corroborated by the evidence of his cousin, a Mrs. Rae, who recollected a wager made by him in February with a Captain Sample, to the effect that he would obtain 5,000 answers to one advertisement, and that two thousand of them would contain postal orders. The prisoner was committed for trial, but admitted to bail.

THE NEW RECORDER OF LINCOLN is to be Mr. George Sills, a revising barrister on the Midland Circuit, and author of several legal treatises, who was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1858.



THE OFFICIAL PROGRAMME of the Church Congress to be held in Manchester during the first week of October has been issued. It is somewhat significant that the very first subject set down for discussion is "To what extent results of historical and scientific criticism, especially of the Old Testament, should be recognised in sermons and teaching."

CANON LIDDON threw out a challenge to agnostic scientists in his sermon at St. Paul's Cathedral on Easter Sunday. Accepting the modern doctrine of the conservation of energy and its application to the death of the human body, on the occurrence of which there is not a cessation, but simply a transformation of energy, the component parts of the once living frame being resolved into new combinations which may be taken up into other and living forms, the Canon asked, "If this law of conservation of energy be good for one department of our being, why not for another? Are not thought, will, love, truly energy? And if they are energy, what, pray, becomes of them at death?"

THE USUAL ANNUAL GATHERING of English Roman Catholic prelates will be held on Tuesday next, Cardinal Manning presiding. Among the subjects to be discussed is the Pope's rescript on the condition of the Holy Sepulchre and other holy places which are in a deplorable state of dilapidation. Very probably a simultaneous collection to raise funds for an improvement in this state of things will be resolved on at the meeting.

THE "NONCONFORMIST" REPORTS the proceedings at a meeting of the Baptist Association to consider the relations between it and the Baptist Union. A motion, supported by Mr. Spurgeon's brother, affirmed that the theological basis of the Union being very meagre, and permitting the reception of all Congregational Baptists, irrespective of their religious beliefs, its Executive should be asked to prepare a sound Evangelical basis for it. This was met by an amendment declaring it to be unadvisable that the Association should interfere in matters upon which the opinion of its members is divided. After a long and keen discussion, the amendment was carried by 164 votes to 131.

ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING responses to the appeal of the *Pall Mall Gazette* for opinions on the Sunday question is that given by Dr. Adler, the chief Rabbi. People often speak of the Jewish observance of the Sabbath as the extreme of rigour. But Dr. Adler, after stating that he is strongly in favour of the Sunday opening of museums, Art-galleries, and public libraries, as promoting the moral and physical health of the population, goes on to say, "Visiting such institutions on Saturdays is not regarded by us as profanation of the sanctity of the Sabbath, which the Mosaic law so emphatically enjoins." "The difficulty of Sunday labour," Dr. Adler adds, "being entailed on the staff of these galleries, &c., may perhaps be met, as is done in the Birmingham Free Library, by Jews being substituted on that day to do such work as is indispensably necessary."



EASTER COMING EARLY this year has naturally been colder than when the festival is coincident with that of St. Mark. At the same time it might have been much worse. Good Friday turned to rain about four o'clock, but the principal hours of the day were pleasant, and beyond the area of the smoky towns the sun shone out quite cheerfully. The Saturday was a gray day, but favourable for getting about, and Sunday fulfilled the old proverb, that the sun always shines on Easter Day. A cold north wind made loitering at street corners objectionable, but pleasure was to be obtained either from a good brisk walk, or from an open stroll in sheltered parts, where walls kept off the wind. The most cheerless side of this Easter has been the exceedingly backward state of the country. It is not too much to say that the London parks with their purple and yellow crocuses were more cheerful than the woods of Eridge or Knockholt or Epping, where at the end of March in ordinary years both violets and primroses are to be found, but where this year there is an absence even of pushing green among the brown dead leaves. On the commons, too, we miss the golden flame of gorse, and the trees and hedges are sadly bare for the birds, whose nest-building begins without much regard to the backwardness of the season. Londoners who are properly grateful for the Gray's Inn Rookery in their midst have been amused by watching the noisy labours of the gentlemen in black, whose search after twigs for their big tree nests is accompanied by incessant and raucous, yet somehow not wholly unmelodious, clamour. In the country, however, not only are the busy rooks to be seen, but the missel-thrush, the magpie, the various tits, and the blackbirds have all been hard at work during the past fortnight. Robins, still earlier, have their spring broods already to provide for. The country-garden now shows some early daffodils, but though the Poet Laureate has seen them "take the winds of March with beauty," it has not been in a year of prolonged cold like the present. The green blades of the narcissus, the flower of which is already shown in shop-windows, are hardly yet visible above the earth in ordinary gardens. Fruit trees are, perhaps healthily, backward, and the grass is rather better in colour than we had ventured to hope after the blighting winds. Agricultural land in the Home Counties and East Anglia is in good condition for spring-sowing of barley, oats, and pulse, and if the average price were not down to a thirty-shilling level, we might even expect to see some spring-sowings of wheat.

THE PEASANT FARMERS OF THE HIGHLANDS will find encouragement in the latest act of the Duke of Sutherland, who has just offered to grant crofts on the great Strath Elladale Deer Forest and Sheep Run, the lease of which has just expired, to the crofter population of the district. His Grace has intimated that holdings can be obtained on the Strath, which extends for nearly twenty miles, and pasture will be given along with the holdings. At the half-yearly rent collection, held on Monday last, an abatement of 25 per cent. on the yearly rent was granted.

IRELAND.—The Spring Cattle Show, annually held at Dublin during the first four days of April, is this year a fair success. Short-horns are a fair show—157 against 155 last year. The Channel Islands cattle, which should find the soft air of Ireland congenial, are shown in increasing numbers, 58 against only 37 in 1887. On the other hand, the Herefords, which fully hold their own in England and America, seem to be falling off in appreciation in "the Green Isle." The Show includes some moderate sheep and a small display of horses, including therein some good Clydesdale and Shire horses.

LAMBING began early, even in the North of England, and, despite the frost, cold, and snow of March, a good average yield of lambs is expected to be the final out-turn. On a high-lying farm in Westmoreland, in a flock of half-bred ewes a correspondent found there had been two triplets of lambs, twenty doubles, and eleven singles, or an average of one and three-quarter lambs to ewes. On another, somewhat similarly placed as to situation, out of eighty half-bred Cheviots and Leicesters, there had been ten with triplets, fifty-five doubles, and fifteen singles, or a total of one hundred and fifty-five lambs to eighty ewes. Two ewes had been lost and eighteen lambs, chiefly attributable to the severe weather, for when the lambs were not found immediately after parturition, they were frozen, and failed to reach their feet.

THE WESTERN MIDLANDS are a dampish and rather cold district, "hence we are not surprised to find a correspondent writing that in

Warwick, Worcester, Stafford, Cheshire, and Shropshire, the spring sowings have been stopped by rain. Both surface and subsoil, he tells us, have been thoroughly wetted, although the falls of rain and snow have been so intermittent that the land has drunk up the moisture as it fell. Farmers now have to wait that course of spring drying which we may reasonably expect before sowing the main crops of spring cereals. There will, therefore, be a late instead of an early seed-time. Fortunately, the work of ploughing was in a forward state before the break-up of the drought, and the condition of the furrows is such that little preparation is needed before the drill. We are glad to hear of the pastures that there is a look of healthy vigour over the face of the turf, both grazing and hay harvest being therefore, as far as can yet be judged, of good promise. "As soon as ever we have warmth," our Stafford correspondent writes, "we shall have a rapid rush of spring growth. We have already redressed the average of moisture, in which a month ago we were sadly deficient, and it only remains for us to redress the average of warmth."

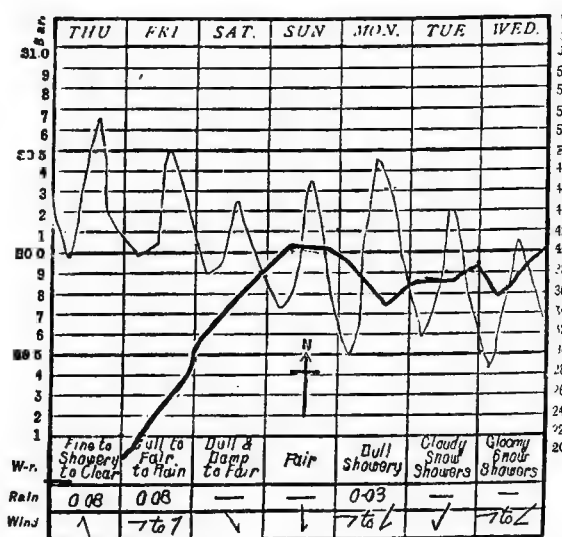
A FARMER'S LIBRARY, or small well-chosen shelf of agricultural books, should never be neglected in country literary institutions, or in the public library of a county town. Morton's "Handbook of the Farm" Series, in nine volumes, may be taken to start with, for they are both cheap and good, and form a little cyclopædia of agriculture in themselves. "Sheldon's Dairy Farming" in dairy districts, and Colman's "The Live Stock of the Farm" might come next as acquisitions, "Wrightson on Agriculture" is generally readable and useful, while Church, Johnston, and Storer are three very valuable writers on the chemical and scientific side of farming. A clever librarian will not rest till he has picked up a cheap set of the *Royal Agricultural Society's Journal* from 1840 to the present time. There are, we believe, forty-eight thick (years), or ninety-six thin volumes, or parts, and while a complete set is dear, a librarian may get a dozen parts at a time for a mere song, so continuing till he has made up the set, when the value of the whole, as a whole, will probably be found to be fully quadruple the aggregate cost.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.—A Bill on this subject has been introduced into the House of Commons by Mr. Jesse Collings, Mr. Henry Fowler, Sir John Lubbock, Sir John Kennaway, Sir Bernhard Samuelson, and Major Rasch. It is intended to provide for the teaching of agricultural and horticultural subjects in public elementary schools, and for the practical illustration and application of such teaching. In order to secure the continuation of instruction in these subjects, for children in rural districts who leave school at an early age, and to give the like instructions to allotment holders and others of the rural population who need it, the Bill provides for the establishment of continuation classes to be carried on in the evenings, Saturday afternoons, and other spare opportunities. As an inducement to parents to allow their children to remain at school, to continue their industrial training after they have passed the compulsory standard, the Bill provides for a limited number of small scholarships for children who have passed the Fourth Standard.

THE BUTCHERS' GROSS PROFITS upon the seventy-seven millions sterling which he is paying, as estimated by Mr. Robert Turnbull, to the farmer for his yearly production of meat, are about 19 millions, and these returns are reduced by various expenses to six millions sterling, which are the butchers' nett profits, that is, 25 per cent. on the twenty-four millions employed in his trade. The above figures correct a recent Rural Note in which the amount paid for wool was attributed to the butcher. The reliance that all country readers place on any statistics given by Mr. Turnbull, whether upon cattle, dairy, or ensilage questions, impels us to emphasise the correct figures as above.

## WEATHER CHART

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 1883



EXPLANATION.—The thick line shows the variations in the height of the barometer during the week ending Wednesday midnight (4th inst.). The fine line shows the shade temperature for the same interval, and gives the maximum and minimum readings for each day, with the (approximate) time at which they occurred. The information is furnished to us by the Meteorological Office.

REMARKS.—Taken as a whole the weather of this week has been changeable, dull, and inclement generally, with showers of cold rain at first, followed by sleet or snow in most places towards the close of the period. During the first three days the weather over the British Islands was under the influence of a deep depression, which, after moving Eastwards along our South Coasts on Thursday (29th ult.), subsequently travelled North-Eastwards, and filled up the Islands at this time were chiefly Easterly and Northerly, and blew with the strength of a gale at several of our Western Stations, while dull showery weather prevailed in all places except the North-West of England, where the fairly bright. Heavy rain fell over the North-East of England during the twenty-four hours ending 8 a.m. 30th ult., more than 1¼ inches being reported from Shields. During the remainder of the week pressure frequent showers of high over our Islands, with cold Northerly breezes and frequent showers of sleet or snow in many places. At the close of the week there appeared little likelihood of any material change either in the wind or the weather. Temperature has again been below the average in all places. Frosts has been very prevalent, but not severe anywhere. On Saturday morning (31st ult.), however, the thermometer on the grass in London showed a reading as low as 23°.

The barometer was highest (30.3 inches) on Sunday (1st inst.); lowest (28.85 inches) on Thursday (29th ult.); range 1.45 inch.

The temperature was highest (53°) on Thursday (29th ult.); lowest (29°) on Wednesday (4th inst.); range 24°.

Rain fell on three days. Total fall 0.19 in. Greatest fall on any one day 0.08 in. on Thursday and Friday (29th and 30th ult.)

## MARRIAGE.

GILBERT—SHUBRICK.—On the 3rd inst., at St. Stephen's, South Kensington, by the Rev. J. P. WALDO, Vicar, WALTER RALPH GILBERT, of "The Mount," Ilfracombe, only son of Colonel GILBERT, C.B., "The Priory," Bodmin, to RACHEL MARY, youngest daughter of General SHUBRICK, H.M. Indian Army, of 7, Cornwall Mansions, S.W., and grand-daughter of the late Major-General Sir W. R. GILBERT, Bart., G.C.B.



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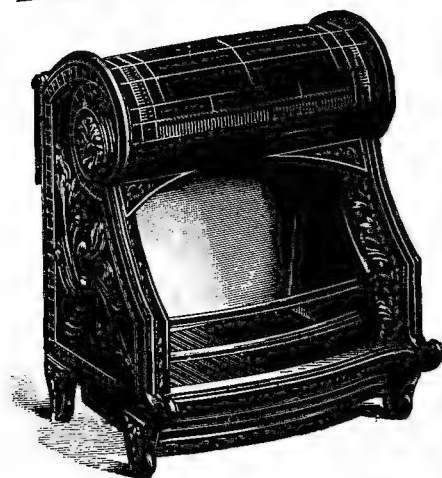
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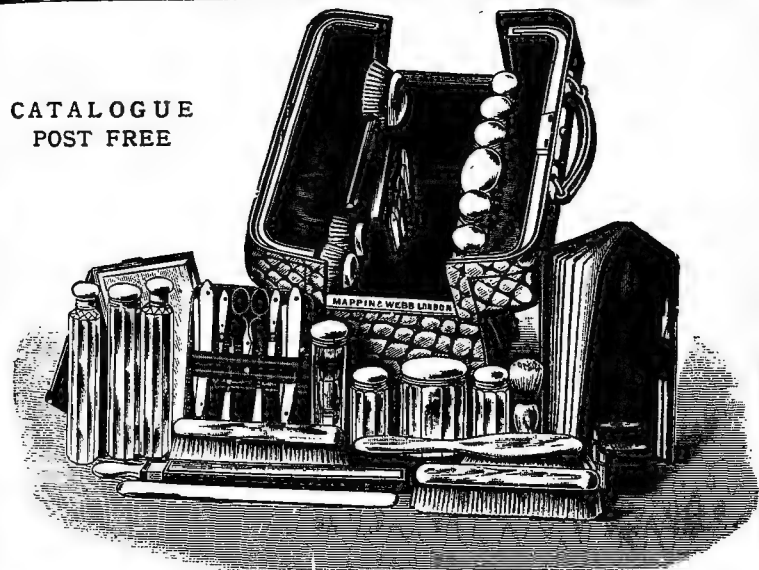
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**DR. SINCLAIR COGHILL,**  
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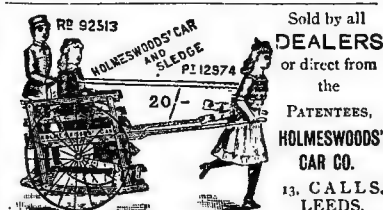
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Class 3. 40 gs. Class 4. 45 gs. Class 5. 50 gs.  
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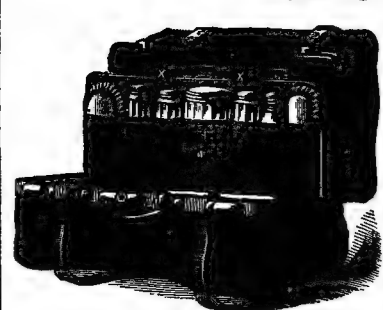
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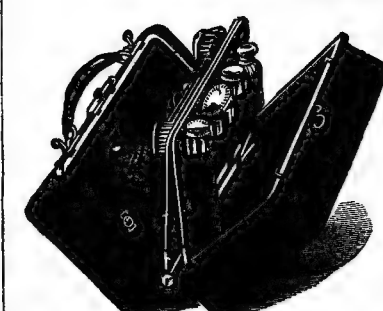
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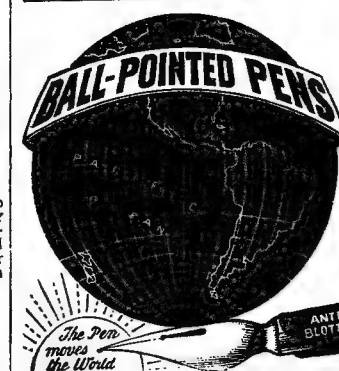
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The domestic servants of governors and employes of subscribing firms, clubs, hotels, &c., are treated free of charge. The Hospital is nearly full, and the outlay is exceedingly heavy. Additional support is earnestly solicited. Private rooms may be had at a charge of three guineas a week.

For particulars write to the Secretary, Major W. CHRISTIE, London Fever Hospital, Liverpool Road, N.

**METROPOLITAN CONVALESCENT INSTITUTION,** Walton-on-Thames, Kingston Hill, and Bexhill-on-Sea. President, His Grace the DUKE OF WESTMINSTER.

FUNDS urgently NEEDED towards the support of this large charity. 4,500 poor persons admitted free yearly. Bankers—London Joint Stock Bank, 69, Pall Mall, S.W. Office, 32, Sackville Street, London, W. CHARLES HOLMES, Secretary.

**CITY OF LONDON HOSPITAL** FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST, Victoria 1k. E. FUNDS MOST REQUIRED. Expenditure for 1887 has exceeded income by £1,500. T. Storror-Smith, Secretary. Office, 24, Finsbury Circus, E.C. Bankers—Messrs. Barclay

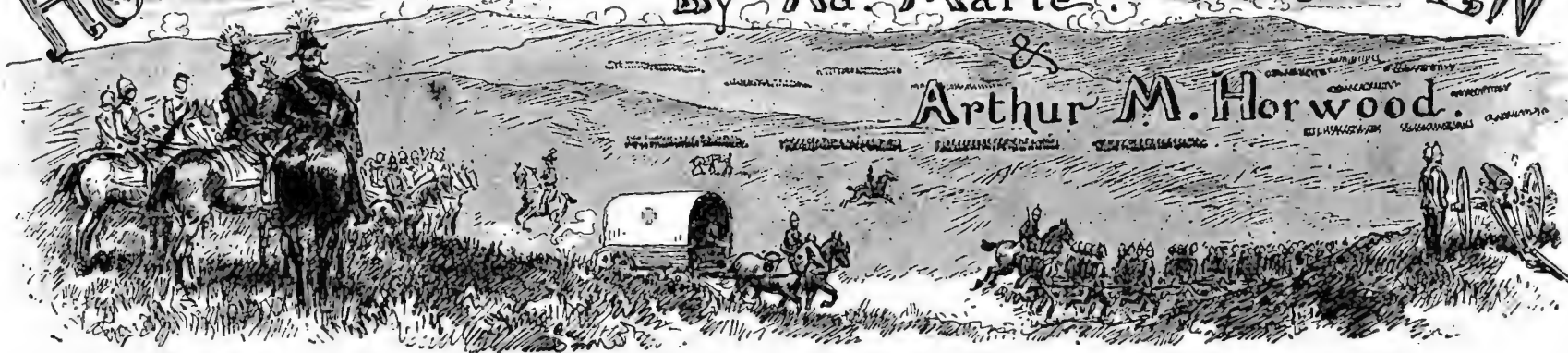
**CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY.** Patron—The Queen. The object of this Society is the improvement of the condition of the poor—(1) by bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities; (2) by securing



# HOW I FARED AT THE EASTER REVIEW

By Ad. Marie

& Arthur M. Herwood.



1. BELONGING TO A COUNTRY CORPS, WHICH OWING TO THE DISTANCE AND RAILWAY FACILITIES (!) HAS TO START BETIMES FOR THE REVIEW, I RISE AND SHAVE AS THE STABLE CLOCK STRIKES 1 A.M.

EASTER—with its excursions and alarms, its long lines of red-coats filling the narrow lanes of Kent and Sussex, its boom of artillery and crackle of musketry, its skirmishes, its bivouacs, its marches, its field-day—Easter has come and gone, and our Volunteers have had again their great annual lesson. Thousands of Volunteers of the Metropolitan and Southern Counties have marched upon Eastbourne and Dover, and many thousands more have taken part in the great field-day of Easter Monday. Around Liverpool, too, there has been activity among the Auxiliary Forces, some battalions of Cheshire and Lancashire Rifles and some men of the R.N.A.V. having been out manœuvring in company. Whitsuntide is, however, the stirring time with the Volunteers of the Midlands and the North, and it is practically only the Metropolitan and Southern Counties' corps who take the field in any numbers at Easter. There were much to be said here, did space permit, as to the behaviour of the troops during these Easter manœuvres, and as to the general value of these short periods of instruction. These four days at Easter form practically all the training in actual field-work



2. AND STEP OUT BRISKLY FOR DODDLECOT RAILWAY STATION, THREE MILES DISTANT

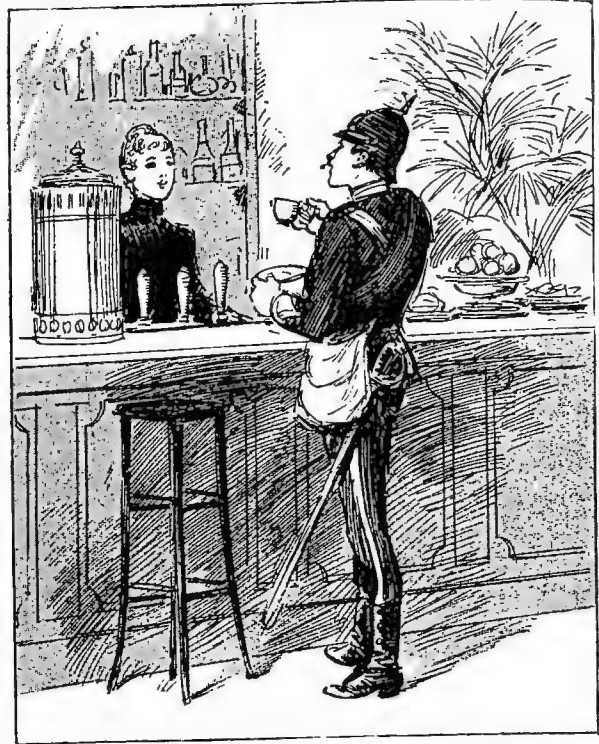


3. WHERE I FIND MY DETACHMENT ALREADY MUSTERING





4. IN THE MAIL TRAIN FOR LONDON (FIRST STAGE OF THE JOURNEY), WHICH WAS STOPPED FOR OUR CONVENIENCE, I WAS FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO OBTAIN A SHORT NAP



5. ARRIVING IN LONDON I JUST SWALLOW A CUP OF COFFEE

which our Volunteers have in the course of the year, and on our Volunteers we rely, in case of invasion, to repel the assault of seasoned troops, drilled under the iron system of the conscription. There is, indeed, the Aldershot week in August, when the Volunteers become for the time actual soldiers; and highly valuable is the instruction then obtained. But only a very small proportion of the Volunteers, even of the Home Counties, ever go to Aldershot. Not even the battalions composed of men of leisure and means, such as the Artists, and the London Scottish, send more than two companies (numbering together perhaps 180 men) out of a battalion of eight, and a man may be a Volunteer for years and never know what it is to sleep a night under canvas.

The four days of the Easter holidays are therefore the only chance of real instruction both for officers and men, and these four days almost equal in value the whole of the rest of the year. Drill is daily becoming of less and less importance in all armies: shooting and easy manœuvring in the field is daily becoming of more and more. Of shooting the Volunteer learns nothing at the Easter manœuvres, but of the duties which he would be called upon to perform in time of war he actually learns a good deal. How vastly of recent years the Easter manœuvres have been improved in their practical aspect none know save those who have had experience extending over some nine or ten years, and the country scarcely yet



6. SECOND STAGE OF JOURNEY (LONDON BRIDGE TO SCENE OF ACTION) "NAP" AGAIN

understands how vitally important and how highly interesting are these manœuvres to the volunteer forces. Much, indeed, might still be done to improve them. It would not be difficult for any officer to sit down and devise a scheme for the Easter manœuvres which in interest and utility would far surpass the existing arrangements. But the War Office cannot move fast; and, urge it as they will, the Volunteer Colonels cannot drive it beyond its own speed. The mere establishment of the marching columns itself, chiefly through the indefatigable exertions of Colonel the Hon. Paul Methuen and General Moncrieff, shows an enormous advance upon the methods of ten years ago, and the arrangements for these columns have been perfected, and are being perfected, year by year. The columns which now march on Dover, or Eastbourne, or Brighton, Easter after Easter, do actually work under conditions similar to those which they would encounter in warfare. For the officers, indeed, the opportunities of instruction are far greater than for the men. With the men, the test is chiefly one of endurance; with the officers, both commissioned and non-commissioned it is

a question of putting into practice the knowledge of tactics which they have learned during the winter months at head-quarters by playing the war game or listening to lectures. The private learns how to advance in open order over difficult country; he learns how to take advantage of all available cover; he may try, if he cares, to aim straight after



7. IT WAS A BRIGHT CHEERFUL MORNING WHEN, ON ARRIVAL, WE MARCHED THROUGH THE TOWN TO THE REVIEW





8. WHICH WAS PASSING OFF IN MUCH THE USUAL MANNER WHEN, IN DOUBLING FOR THE TWENTIETH TIME, MY FOOT CAUGHT IN A HOLE, AND I FELL



9. WHICH RESULTED IN A SEVERE SPRAIN OF THE ANKLE

doubling up hill for a quarter of a mile. The company-officers and the colonels learn more. They learn how to conceal or display their battalions as the occasion arises; how to set outposts, guards, and pickets; how to manœuvre their companies and battalions in connection with other companies and battalions.

For the Brigadiers and Divisional Commanders there is, of course, yet greater work to be done, and the regular officers may thank the Volunteers for the only opportunity which they get in the course of the year (save for an occasional sham-fight on the Fox Hills), for handling any body of troops larger than a brigade. All this is of the greatest value and importance, and seeing how much of reality the marching columns have given to the Easter manœuvres, it may well be hoped that the reform may soon be pushed yet further in the direction of abolishing, or at least altering the conditions of, the great field-day of Easter Monday. This is but a survival. It lingers on from the earlier days of the Volunteer force. Some Volunteer corps still adopt the practice on Saturdays, instead of doing useful attack or battalion drill in a park or other open space, of simply marching through the streets with band playing. The men like, say the officers, to show themselves in uniform in their own quarter of the town, and it stimulates recruiting. The Easter Monday field-day is much the same. The picnic idea has by no means been knocked out of the heads of



10. AND BEING UNABLE TO WALK I WAS PLACED ON A STRETCHER FOR THE PURPOSE OF BEING CONVEYED TO THE NEAREST RAILWAY STATION

many Volunteer corps, and the great field-day is a picnic and nothing more. It is a tribute to the ancient and decaying prejudices of the lazier classes of Volunteers. As to instruction or interest, there is none. The manœuvres are amazing; the expenditure of blank cartridge is stupendous; the doubling up and down hill is prodigious; the blunders of the opposing commanders are extraordinary; the Duke of Cambridge and his Staff ride about with serious faces, as if the whole thing were really something more than an elaborate jest. But it is mere sound and fury, and signifies nothing so far as any instruction in the art of war is concerned. It is mere playing to the gallery; and the gallery in this case is the great public of ignorant sightseers who swarm over the ground, impede the movements of the troops, stop their ears at the booming of the big guns, and gape their widest at that archaic and stupid display—the march-past. The Easter Monday field-day in its present form must go. The day must not be wasted in this extravagantly silly way. Crowds of men who can spare only the one day from their occupations, come down from London by the early

trains, and it is a shame that they should not have opportunities of learning their duty in the field similar to those enjoyed by their comrades on the preceding Friday and Saturday. All this the War Office will gradually get to see when they understand that the Volunteers themselves are no longer wedded to their ancient prejudices. So much for



11. BUT THE BEARERS, GETTING TIRED OF THEIR WORK, TOOK ME TO A FARM-HOUSE FOR A REST, PLEADING MY EXHAUSTED CONDITION





12. HERE I WAS INDEED MADE MOST COMFORTABLE FOR A SHORT—A TOO SHORT—TIME

the general considerations of the Easter manœuvres. But our sketches deal with the question from the more intimate and personal point of view. They follow the adventures of a young officer of a suburban Volunteer Corps, who has to cram his Easter Monday full of work. We see him in the early morning rising at dawn, and shaving by candlelight. He plods some distance to the neighbouring railway station, where he is to meet the main body of his corps, and we behold him reporting himself to his colonel, while the men are assembling to await the special train which is to convey them to the scene of action. Those who have not gone through it have little idea of the fatigues of such a day

as this. That our Volunteers go through it so well speaks volumes for their energy, their enthusiasm, and their physique. The hero of our story goes through it all bravely till, in a "double" across a ploughed field, he catches his foot in a hole, and falls, badly spraining his ankle. No sooner is the accident made known than the battalion surgeon is on the spot, and two men of the battalion bearer-detachment are seen making for the spot with a stretcher. The Volunteer Ambulance movement is a thing of quite recent years, and the way in which it has been initiated and carried through reflects the greatest credit upon the energy, self-reliance, and organising capacity

of the Volunteers. It was in October, 1876, that the Volunteer Ambulance movement was first started, mainly through the energetic action of Mr. Andrew Maclure, of the London Scottish. The idea was well supported. Over 5,000 men qualified for the War Office Ambulance Certificate. Bearer detachments were organised for many battalions, and the men were carefully trained to give first aid to the wounded. For the first time in the history of the force an attempt was made to enable Volunteers to attend to their own wounded. It was marvellous that the force could have been in existence so long without some attempt of the kind having been made long before. The utility of such an organisation was at once apparent, and recruits joined eagerly. Ambulance waggons, bearing the red cross of Geneva, made their appearance for the first time at the Easter marches. Several detachments of men with stretchers, medicine boxes, and "medical comforts" (an elastic phrase which includes, it is popularly supposed, a fair amount of Scotch whisky) attended their battalions in the field. But all this was merely rudimentary. A central organisation became necessary, and accordingly, three years ago, the Volunteer Medical Staff Corps was established, with Surgeon-Commandant J. Cantlie as its head and chief. The corps numbers some four or five hundred men, and the number of centres is being increased.

It is recruited largely among the medical students of the London hospitals, but there are many laymen forming separate companies. All receive a special training for the work they have to perform. Their uniform is blue with black velvet facings, and the corps turn out remarkably well on parade. They look smart and active. At the last Easter manœuvres part of the Volunteer Medical Staff Corps went to Dover, part to Eastbourne. In time of war they would act as a connecting-link between the bearer-detachments of the battalions and the field and base-hospitals, their business being to care for the wounded, and forward them with all speed to the base-hospital. Surgeon Norton is now the Surgeon-Commandant of the Volunteer Medical Staff Corps, under Surgeon-General Sir Guyer Hunter, who is Honorary Surgeon-Commandant.

Quite recently another and an important step in organising relief for the wounded has been taken by the establishment of the Volunteer Medical Association—an association of Volunteer surgeons who aim at popularising ambulance-work with the rank and file, and who give instruction in ambulance-work to men of any battalions. There are some Volunteer surgeons, however, who hold aloof from the new organisation, and who carry out the instruction on their own lines. Valuable work has been done by several of these, notably by Surgeon W. Pearce of the Artists' Corps (20th Middlesex), who lately sent up 100 men for examination, every one of whom passed successfully. Such is a brief outline of the state of ambulance work in the Volunteer force. As in most other departments of Volunteer work, the Volunteers have to thank the War Office for little encouragement or assistance. The organisation is still ludicrously insufficient for the requirements of the force, and were this country unhappily to be dragged into any serious war in which it became necessary to call out the Volunteers, the sufferings of the wounded would be lamentable. The hero of our picture, however undergoes but little hardship. The battalion surgeon directs his subordinates how to bind up the sprained ankle, and two sturdy bearers carry the sufferer to a neighbouring farm-house, where the arrival of the party creates the greatest excitement. In such pleasant quarters does the sufferer find himself, that he by no means regrets the accident, and he thinks with complacency of his panting comrades skirmishing over the neighbouring country. Finally, packing him carefully into one of the farm-carts, he is driven off to the nearest railway station, carrying with him pleasant memories of sympathy and kindness. May we hope that he returns when the ankle is well to thank the hospitable folk, that he falls in love with one of his fair nurses, and leads her to the altar? It were the fitting end to such an adventure, but we are left to guess what we like.

C. N. W.



13. FOR MY HOST SPEEDILY DEvised THE PLAN OF FORWARDING ME TO THE RAILWAY STATION IN A FARM WAGON, AND I WAS RELUCTANTLY COMPELLED TO BID THE HOSPITABLE HOMESTEAD "FAREWELL"





DRAWN BY GEORGE DU MAURIER

Charley stepped over the sill of the window and joined them, an example which was followed at once by half a dozen of the younger guests.

# THE MYSTERY OF MIRBRIDGE

By JAMES PAYN,

AUTHOR OF "BY PROXY," "UNDER ONE ROOF," &C., &C.

## CHAPTER XXV.

### A COUNTRY DINNER-PARTY

WHATEVER is to be urged against the dullness of rural life, a great dinner-party in the country in June is certainly less depressing than a similar function during the same month in London. The knowledge that there is a garden outside into which to the adventurous escape will be presently possible, is a supporting thought. Through the open window, even if the shutters are closed, there come in pleasant scents, and hints of the green coolness out of doors. On the other side of them there are at least no congregation of street-idlers sucking the spikes of the area railings, and hoping to catch a glimpse of what they fallaciously believe to be a scene of unmitigated enjoyment. There is less formality, because the company are all more or less known to one another, and the sense of rareness adds zest to the feast.

Mr. Lascelles, the Chairman of Quarter Sessions, had been kindly chosen by the hostess to take Clara down to dinner; he was a bachelor, and had been so for fifty years, in spite of the most resolute attacks from two generations of high-born virgins. Since Clara was so very beautiful, it was possible that she might effect his capture, and, at all events, nobody could accuse her hostess of not having been to place her where she could do as little mischief as possible. Neither Hugh nor any of the young male Joddrells were in her vicinity. Opposite, however, sat Lucy with one of them, who had received a maternal caution not to make a fool of himself with his fair neighbour; it was doubly superfluous, first, because (like the poet) he was "born, not made," a fool, and, secondly, because he never took his eyes off her sister from soup till ice-putting time.

Clara Thorne was a woman, indeed, to turn the heads not only of all sorts and conditions of men, but of men of all ages. The glamour she cast over this fledgling Joddrell fell, to some extent, even on the stout Chairman of Quarter Sessions: he kept repeating to himself, "Steady, Lascelles, steady; after all, she is only a monstrous fine gal," as a charm against her fascinations, and afterwards confessed that he had never been so nearly taken in and done for in all his life. If he had proposed to her, and could have been got to put it in writing at the back of his *ménue* card, it is my belief that the course of this veracious history would have been changed. Fortunately, or unfortunately, for himself, as folks may think, he was spell-bound; he felt if he did not hold his tongue that he should commit himself, and therefore he remained dumb.

Clara's other neighbour was a Master of Hounds, and rattled on in full cry; but he was a married man, and risked nothing.

Once or twice she cast a furtive smile at Hugh, at the other end of the table, but it was not returned, though his gaze was riveted on her; he was not one of those persons of whom it is said by their detractors that their temper is not to be depended upon—when he was once put out he remained so for a long time. While in this condition, he had a habit, probably inherited from his father, of swearing softly to himself. Unaware of this peculiarity, poor Miss Joddrell, who, of course, could not believe her ears, would faintly murmur, "I beg your pardon, I did not quite catch what you said?" when he would smile grimly, and plunge into conversation for a minute or two. Clara perceived it all, and shook with silent laughter, as the M.F.H. described to her at considerable length how in some run last winter no less than ten men "came croppers." He pronounced her afterwards to be not only the handsomest girl in England, but one who understood a joke.

Charley made the running with the heiress in a manner which, if it had been Hugh instead of him, would have delighted his mother's heart. Of course, if Hugh would not exert himself to win her, she ought not to have grudged her to her younger son, but she could not bear the thought of her darling thus "sinning his mercies." She too well understood why that frown corrugated the forehead of her eldest son, and cursed that fatal beauty, which, in public or in private, held his too susceptible heart in thrall; and yet it was so difficult—the dear boy having so proud a spirit—to put a stop to the thing. She made up her mind, as a last resort, to represent to Hugh that in case Charley should win Miss Mumchance he would be in a better position in the county than himself, a consideration which she well knew would have no light weight with him. Charley's own interests scarcely entered into her thoughts; so easy it is, having once done a man a wrong, to contemplate the doing him another.

Sir Richard, on the other hand, whose languid attention had been aroused by the same cause, was well pleased to note his favourite son lifting with so light a hand the three hundred thousand pounder. Nothing would have given him more satisfaction than to see him win her; that in so doing he would "wipe Hugh's eye," as he expressed it to himself, would by no means have detracted from his enjoyment, but the chief happiness it would confer upon him would be the sense of personal relief. Well placed and well provided for, Charley would be no longer the object of pity and remorse that he now was to him; his conscience—or so he flattered himself—would henceforth cease to trouble him. It was true that at the best Charles would still be defrauded of his title after his father's death, but, if he hankered after such vanities, it was possible that even that might be remedied by a judicious outlay of Miss Mumchance's money. As for that young lady herself, as apart from her wealth,

I am afraid she was utterly left out of Sir Richard's calculations. Almost the only person, indeed, in the whole company who did not give one thought to Miss Mumchance's fortune was the young gentleman who seemed in such a fair way to get it; his indifference in the matter no doubt assisted him very materially, for it was rare to the great heiress to meet a companion at the dinner table who ignored her financial position, and treated her like any other young woman—nay, even more familiarly, for it must be confessed that Mr. Charles's manners, though perfectly courteous and gentlemanlike, were not those of the Vere de Veres. His spirits were high, his disposition frank, and he felt himself at home wherever he was. Artificiality and affectation were hateful to him; he disliked airs in a woman almost as much as swagger in a man, and the more natural she was the more she was sure to please, and to be pleased with him.

Naturalness is not of course to be recommended to everybody; but Charles Trevor could afford to display that gift. He had no meannesses to conceal, and though tender to youth, and respectful to old age, had not the slightest regard for adventitious distinctions. His education had been loose and fragmentary; it was fortunate for him that he had a keen intuition, or he would often have displayed a shameful ignorance; but he had the art of making himself agreeable—where any reasonable opportunity was given to him—in a very high degree. Pride and Priggism shrank from his bright genial talk, like hot-house plants from the wholesome breeze of Spring, but all persons with any strata of good nature, however overlaid by form and gloss, were attracted by it, and Miss Mary Anne Mumchance was very much attracted. It is fair to say, however, that she was already prejudiced in his favour by her friend Mrs. Westrop, who had been favourably impressed with him at their meeting on the Four Acre. That lady did not like the look of his brother, and had already constituted herself his partisan; and, so far as she could influence matters, she had resolved—if it came to a question of Hugh or Charles as a suitor for her heiress—that Charles should not be the rejected one.

The necessity for such a choice was of course at present in the clouds, but no one, whether male or female, even so much as looked at Miss Mumchance without an eye to the matrimonial disposition of her. What was ludicrous enough, Mrs. Westrop was thoroughly convinced that in advocating Charles's cause she was pleasing his mother very much. Hugh, it was understood, was well provided for, and to see her younger son in a similar position would surely be gratifying to her. At the same time, being placed next to Charley Mrs. Westrop gratified herself by talking to him, and indeed took credit for some self-sacrifice in occasionally leaving him to talk to Miss Mumchance, who sat on the other side. Of the two, Charley greatly preferred the conversation of the elder lady, of



whom it had been shrewdly observed by a judge of such matters, that "if she had but smoked she would have been as good as a man." What was meant by that apparently ungentelemanly opinion was that she used a certain freedom of speech which put a man at once at his ease with her (if it did not frighten him out of his wits), and established a good fellowship rare between the sexes.

Had Lady Trevor been in her son's place she would have learnt a good deal about the character and circumstances of the present company, which it would have been of great advantage to her to know: for Mrs. Westrop, though no cynic, was, as Sir Richard had hinted, a very acute commentator, and spared nobody, not even herself.

"You and I, Mr. Charles," she cried, "are both as poor as Job, which should be a bond between us. We must make common cause against all these prosperous people."

"By all means," answered Charley gaily. "Whose pocket shall I pick while you knock them on the head?"

"I think you might at least have made the division of labour the other way," she answered reproachfully. "However, it is quite true that of us two it is I who am the combative one. You see I have lost my money, which makes me bitter and antagonistic; whereas you, I suppose, have never had any to lose."

"Not a stiver," was the frank reply.

"And yet you don't resent it. You are like the needy knife-grinder—a wretch whom no sense of wrong can rouse to vengeance. My dear Mary Anne, this young gentleman is like yourself—much too good-natured."

Then she let the young people talk together a bit, consoling herself for her own silence by watching the gloom that their laughter evoked upon the face of her hostess. That lady began to have a very different opinion of Charley from that she had formed of him when she had first made his acquaintance in the belief that he was Sir Richard's heir. Under the cloak of openness and good humour she beheld an audacious and designing young man. It was downright impertinence in such a detrimental to be so much at ease with an heiress; but she had sufficient intelligence to perceive that there might be a prospect of success to him through the very simplicity of his method of attack: while others were advancing their parallels, he might carry the citadel by a *coup de main*. She understood, too, that Mrs. Westrop, with her natural leaning to Bohemianism and antagonism to the proprieties, was assisting him in his unhallowed scheme. No doubt she would one day demand her *quid pro quo* in a percentage on the profits of the transaction.

In this, as we know, Lady Joddrell did wrong to at least one of the parties concerned; and, what was more surprising, even Mrs. Westrop herself fell into error as regarded her new *protégé's* intentions.

"I am glad to see, Charles," she whispered fervently, "that you are at present heart-whole."

"You must mean that I have a hole in my heart," he answered plaintively.

"No, no; now do be serious if you can for a little. You know I wish you well, and it may be of great importance to you. I say I am glad to see that you are not like every other man who sets eyes on her—enslaved by your Rector's daughter."

Charles's eye wandered for a fleeting instant to Lucy, with a twinkle of merriment, then settled down upon her sister.

"Yes, I've watched you, and this is the first time you have looked her way; it's a great relief to my mind, I assure you, for such an attachment in one in your position would be madness."

"She would let me know that, herself, I think, if I ventured—"

"Oh, she's rejected you already, has she?" put in Mrs. Westrop quietly. "Well, so much the better. That girl, if I am not mistaken, is flying at high game. Even Mr. Lascelles, you see, is not good enough for her; it is quite on the cards, however, that she has already hooked her fish. In that case you must know it, of course. Has she?"

Here she flashed a glance at him which would have befitted the acutest cross-examiner at the bar; though mundane enough in its spirit, it seemed to read his very soul.

"She may have hooked him, but she has certainly not landed him," answered Charley, laughing.

"But she *will* land him as sure as he lives," continued Mrs. Westrop confidently. "That will be a sad disappointment to your mother you know: 'He might have looked a little higher,' she will say, like the mother-in-law in the ballad. It must be dreadful to her to have such a female detrimental in her own village."

"They seem to get on, however, pretty well together," observed Charley, a little stiffly: he was not annoyed at this plain speaking upon Clara's account, and still less upon his mother's, but by reason of the indirect reflection it cast on Lucy. If her sister was a "detrimental"—a term which he was far from resenting as applied to himself, but which he thought ill-befitting a young lady—Lucy was a detrimental too.

"Of course they get on now; it is for the interest of neither to quarrel with the other at present; but they are both standing upon a Vesuvius, the crust of which is of the thinnest."

"Let us say on an Etna—as advertised at three-and-six," returned Charley drily, "it sounds more domestic."

"Now you're angry," said Mrs. Westrop.

"Not a bit of it; only melodrama is out of my line."

"Well, it isn't much in mine; but I wish I could teach you to be a little more serious. Life isn't all beer and skittles, as my poor husband used to say too late; for it was Skittles that ruined him." She uttered a little sigh at the remembrance, while Charley shook with inward mirth. "Now you're in a good humour again," she continued quite unruffled, "I wish to say that my little cottage is open to you, sir, whenever you choose to make a call. It may be well worth your while, I do assure you."

"You are most kind, I'm sure," he answered gratefully, but with a certain hesitation of manner.

"You needn't be afraid," she whispered. "Mary Anne will not take you for a mere fortune-hunter. She is much more sensible than she looks—Lady Joddrell is trying to catch your mother's eye. Fortunately for her, she does not labour under the usual disadvantage of having to listen to her neighbour's conversation at the same time, for Sir Richard hasn't opened his mouth to her this half-hour. How bored he looks, and no wonder. Now we're off. We shall meet in the garden presently, sir; for I've made up my mind to get into the garden."

"Then you will certainly do it," said Charley laughing, as Mrs. Westrop sailed out of the room with her heiress, like a frigate in convoy of some Indianman.

## CHAPTER XXVI.

### AFTER DINNER

"SIR RICHARD, what are you taking?" inquired young Mr. Joddrell, with a glance at the decanters which were delaying in front of the Baronet like vessels waiting in the Downs for a wind.

"No more wine, thank you. I will take a cup of coffee presently, and in the mean time, with your permission, a cigar." And, without waiting for a reply, he took out his case, and lit one.

In the country Civilisation progresses with slower steps than in London. It was the custom at Catesby to consume certain magnums of claret after dinner, as in the Dark Ages, and to converse learnedly of the vintage to which it belonged. The great legal

luminary (extinct) who had reigned there had not been a smoker, and the Chief Baroness, out of respect for his memory (and also because she hated tobacco) forbade the usual weed, except in the smoking-room. The elder guests professed the same old-fashioned opinions, and were inclined to murmur at this innovation, which they suspected might cut off the usual supply of their favourite liquor. The younger men, including the host, were, on the other hand, in favour of it, and in their hearts regarded its audacious proposer as a benefactor of his species.

"It's rather early for the cigars, is it not, Sir Richard?" remonstrated the M.F.H.

"It's not *too* early," was the Baronet's calm reply. "For my part I look upon dinner—and also on every other meal—as a mere preparation for smoking."

Hugh Trevor, dutiful in one respect, had already followed his father's example, and lit his cigar.

"Then I really think we had better have the windows open," observed Mr. Lascelles, with a puff of discontent.

"Just so; you are quite right to think of Lady Joddrell's curtains," said Sir Richard, blandly. He was irritated, like Hotspur, by the fop who objected to the smell of gunpowder.

This proposal was carried into effect at once; instead of the lace curtains and the gilt shutters they half concealed, the noble terrace, with its rows of flowers, and the trim lawn sloping down to the park below, displayed their cool loveliness to view. It was a transformation scene that was welcome to everybody, even the old fogies, though they were disinclined to confess it.

"I hope I am not scandalising you, Joddrell," said Sir Richard, apologetically, "by my foreign habits."

The young man hastened to observe that so far from being scandalised, he thought the opening of the windows was a great improvement; as to the smoking, however, he thought of his lady mother, and the row there would be about it next morning, and was silent. Sir Richard fathomed his thoughts.

"Try one of my cigars," he continued, wickedly. "I think you will like the brand;" and he passed one over to him. The young gentleman took the forbidden fruit, not indeed without a pang of scruple, but nothing loth.

In two minutes all his younger guests were smoking. Sir Richard had placed himself at the head of a social revolution. It proved successful, and from that moment he was revered accordingly; but not without provoking some enmity.

"I believe that fellow will smoke upon the bench of magistrates," whispered the M.F.H. to Mr. Lascelles.

"If he does, begad, I'll commit him," was the grim response. The two old gentlemen, indeed, were a great deal put out.

"Do you think this is the right claret?" whispered the Chairman, doubtfully; "or has this infernal smoke spoilt my palate?"

"What do you mean? Do you think it is not the old 'bin'?" ejaculated the M.F.H., aghast.

"I am not sure. The Chief Baroness is quite capable of putting us off with an inferior article."

Then they drank slowly and homœopathically, with their old heads thrown back like a couple of ducks, till they had convinced themselves there was no mistake; when their ruffled feathers sank peacefully down, and they set to work in earnest.

"Your brother seemed to be getting on uncommonly well with the heiress," murmured one of the younger Joddrells to Hugh, under the impression he was saying something pleasant.

"I dare say. She looks easy to please."

"Yes, up to a certain point; but I find one doesn't get much further with her."

"Very likely."

The simple youth, unconscious of sarcasm, pursued his theme. "She does not give herself airs, however, I *will* say for her. Don't you think, considering what a pot of money she's got, that she's rather good-looking—what one would call in Scotland a bonnie girl?"

"Not bonnie—bony," was the uncompromising reply, and it closed the conversation.

The report that young Joddrell gave of Mr. Hugh Trevor to his contemporaries in the county, though less diplomatically expressed than those in use at the Foreign Office, was accurate and comprehensive:

"A clever fellow enough; but sulky as a dipped cat, and exceedingly disagreeable."

Charley, on the other hand, made friends with everybody, though less inclined for talk than usual. He was still feeding on the last look that Lucy had cast at him as she left the room, and he had also Mrs. Westrop's words to think about: "My little cottage is open to you whenever you choose to make a call." He well understood that this was not a mere vague invitation, and that, whatever other feelings might have prompted it, goodwill towards himself was largely mixed with them. If he should take advantage of her kindness, he felt he would be doing so on false pretences; while, if he ignored her proffered hospitality, so acute a woman as Mrs. Westrop would make a shrewd guess at the reason why. As to being shaken in his allegiance to Lucy by the three-hundred-thousand-pounder, the idea of such a thing—but for the complication it might bring about—was ludicrous to him. Notwithstanding which he liked the heiress, doubtless none the less that she had shown a liking for himself, but chiefly for her simplicity and good-humour, and resented the familiar manner in which she was discussed by the young gentlemen in his neighbourhood. If she had belonged to their own set, they would doubtless have been more respectful; but the claims of sex are not so readily acknowledged by our gilt youth as those of birth and lineage. Moreover, it was a disadvantage, from a social point of view, to Miss Mumchance that she had Mrs. Westrop for a *chaperon*—a lady who ruled less by love than fear. It was indelicately suggested that the widow "financed" her, and would receive at least as high a commission upon the young lady's being favourably placed in the matrimonial market as the percentage of profit which his keeping the tables at baccarat had given her unlamented papa. Charley's sharp tongue would have done no little execution among these free speakers, and he was sorely tempted to use it but for the consideration that his advocacy would have confirmed the general suspicion that he had earned some right to defend her.

Even his father took an opportunity of dropping a characteristic word of mock felicitation into his ear.

"Well, my boy, I congratulate you upon your good fortune, or rather upon the lady's. I hope you may some day be in the unique position of being able to lend your father a little money."

In this case Charley did venture upon a word of remonstrance.

"Really, father, I do think it is rather hard upon Miss Mumchance, who is an honest simple girl, and has no more thought of marrying me than has Mrs. Westrop."

"But that may be saying a great deal more than you think," laughed Sir Richard; "indeed, from what I saw of the goings on of you three, I am inclined to believe that the widow and she are rivals in your affections. I do hope you'll have the good sense to choose the younger."

Something had happened since dinner which had afforded the Baronet much less ground for satisfaction. Mr. Lascelles, in discoursing of "the Bench" as usual, had expressed his hope that Sir Richard would give his fellow-magistrates all the help he could in putting down poaching. "There's a pestilent fellow in your parish," he said, "of the name of Beeton, who has given us a mint of trouble."

The instant the name was out of his mouth, the worthy Chairman of Quarter Sessions would have given twenty brace of birds to recall it. For the first time in his life he wished he was a smoker.

that he might hide himself, like Juno with Ixion, in a cloud. Fortunately it was only a few of the elder guests who recognised the excessive inopportune of this reference to the brother of the lady who had caused the Baronet's exit from the county; and Sir Richard only murmured "Indeed!" and puffed away at his cigar as though nothing had been said to wound his ear. It was noticed, however, that Hugh's already frowning brow grew darker at the allusion, a circumstance which distressed good Mr. Lascelles considerably. He was a thorough gentleman, and, except for offenders against the game laws, had a tender heart, and the idea of having recalled the Baronet's early peccadillo to his memory in the hearing of his sons made him miserable for the evening. As it happened, he had much overrated the sensitiveness of Mr. Hugh Trevor, the cause of whose annoyance was something quite different from what he supposed it to be, while as for Charley, his thoughts were engaged upon a very different matter. He was "crooning" to himself (as the Ettrick Shepherd calls it) one of the most charming epigrams in the language, which has for its subject the superiority of true love over riches. The sly allusions to Miss Kilmansegg and her golden leg, which he heard about him, prevented, indeed, his forgetting the existence of Miss Mumchance, but he only remembered it in association with that of another young lady:

Have you seen an heiress in her jewels mounted,  
That her wealth and she seemed one, and she could be counted?  
Have you seen a bosom with one white rose betwixt it,  
And did you mark the grateful blush with which the bridegroom fixed it?

Through the open windows he presently caught the sound of gentle voices and soft laughter on the terrace, whereby he knew that Mrs. Westrop had carried out her programme, and procured the escape of at least some of the ladies into the garden. It was no grave breach of good manners—though if it had been I fear he would have risked it—to step over the sill of the window and join them, an example which was followed at once by half-a-dozen of the younger guests. It was the first time that the bonds of etiquette, which at Catesby Hall were as the laws of the Medes and Persians, had been so broken through there; but, as the Chief Baroness afterwards observed, the Trevors had Bohemianism in their blood, and their long residence in foreign parts seemed to have absolutely unfitted them for the rules and regulations of civilised life.

(To be continued)



THE long and severe winter, which seemed so reluctant to leave us, is now at an end, and the sun has considerable power; hence we are tempted to throw off our furs and to don spring attire, regardless of the cold winds lurking at every corner, and ready to pounce upon the foolish butterflies who leave off their warm wraps too soon. It is well to be prepared for and not to await the arrival of genial warm weather; bearing this fact in mind we sent to one of the leading West End firms for patterns of the newest materials for the season, and were well satisfied with the result of our application. Combinations of plain and fancy materials are as much worn as ever, small and large stripes and checks are, if possible, more popular than they were last year, at the same time plain fabrics still hold their own with those persons who maintain that stripes and checks are only becoming to tall slender figures, or small fairy-like forms. Cloth has somewhat superseded cashmere; a beautifully soft make of this material is the "superfine Amazon cloth," which is specially adapted for polonaises, as it is very wide; the delicate shades of fawn, stone, and grey for this season are most artistic, and the material is so light and pliable that it may be worn quite up to the summer, and yet is sufficiently warm for an early spring costume. Of a similar texture, but not quite so fine and more inexpensive, is "Summer Wigogne," made in a variety of pleasing shades.

For useful wear, "Hand Woven Suitings" in plain and fancy designs, to be made up together, are to be recommended. There are many variations on this material; for example, the "Sanderingham," which has fancy stripes of three or four different widths, white silk upon a dark foundation, very quiet and ladylike for morning wear; the "Hurlingham," which is very showy, in wide and narrow stripes, of dark and light shades, on a speckled foundation; the "Ascot," which is very effective when made up by a skilled and practised hand, but not to be touched by an amateur; it is made in alternate wide and narrow stripes of cream-white, and two colours: brown and grey-blue, grey and pink, and other quiet mixtures; the "Cambridge," a very neat design of narrow dark and light stripes, with tiny white silk dots, and equally neat in colouring, but quite plain; the "Hygienic Suiting," which is well adapted for school wear.

A pretty new material is "Kilmarnock Tweed." It is made in fancy stripes of four or more colours, mere threads of each colour, mixed with grey, which has a very novel effect.

For afternoon wear "Pekin Riché" is very stylish in satin stripes on a plain ground, the former some shades darker than the latter. "Satin Stripe Foulé" is a charming material; one design is a series of blue, gold, and pink; narrow stripes in satin on a fawn-coloured foundation in groups at intervals.

The above list contains but a comparatively small number of the varieties of the genus stripes and spots. The next question is how to make our spring costumes. One great charm of these fancy materials is that they require little or no trimming; the rage for "pinking" has not decreased; it makes a very pretty finish to a cloth or serge costume. Where plain and fancy striped materials are used, the skirt should be made of the former, either arranged in full pleats, or quite plain, trimmed with three graduated bands of the material pinked on each side, or of satin to match the striped tunic. The fancy material should be artistically draped back and front; short jacket of the plain, with waistcoat, cuffs, and collar of the fancy material.

Home dressmakers will welcome a useful revival of the day, "the robe," which is arranged with its trimmings all complete and can be easily put together, especially when the bodice is made *en blouse*, and fastened round the waist with either a band of the material or a stiff belt and buckle; the latter is the more natty of the two. There is a mistaken idea abroad that a blouse or Norfolk bodice is a loose, misfitting garment—such need not be the case, as, if mounted on a well-cut tight-fitting lining, and if the pleats are carefully arranged, it is becoming both to stout and slim figures. There is a divided opinion as to the method of making bodices: some dressmakers are in favour of the short-waisted Directoire style, others hold to the long waists with deep points. Our readers will do well to study their figures before deciding which style is the more becoming of the two.

There were some very pretty weddings in the course of last month. A very elegant trimming for the bridal robe is of ostrich feather tips round the hem and train. One of the graceful brides wore a costume of cream-coloured satin and plush, a Brussels lace veil fastened with diamond pins, her two juvenile bridesmaids wore cream cashmere, edged with brown feather trimming; hats and large feathers to match; they carried baskets of primroses. The travelling dress was remarkably stylish, of brown cloth—the waistcoat, collar, and cuffs embroidered in gold; mantle and muff of brown plush, trimmed with beaver; brown and gold bonnet to match.



Cashmere is very much worn for bridal dresses, and at more than one wedding lately the bride wore delicate stone-coloured cashmere and velvet. Unquestionably these costumes are more useful after the marriage-day than the more delicate pure white, for which, however, we feel a decided preference, especially when the bride is youthful.

At a country wedding recently the bride wore a cream-coloured cashmere and corded silk, made with a very long and narrow train, an ample tulle veil, with small orange-blossom wreath. The bridesmaids' costumes were of cream-coloured nun's veiling, trimmed with coffee-coloured lace.

In preparation for a forthcoming wedding silver is the predominant trimming; the bridal dress is of white satin; round the square train is a deep band of embroidery in seed pearls and silver thread, the tablier and stomacher of satin, richly embroidered in pearls and silver; tulle veil, edged with a narrow silver cord, and fastened with large filagree silver butterflies, bouquet of lilies-of-the-valley, large filagree silver butterflies, bouquet of lilies-of-the-valley, myrtle, and orange-blossom. The bridesmaids' dresses are of Alexandra blue velvet, with demi-trains, embroidered in silver, rose, thistle, and shamrocks; tabliers and stomachers of the palest pink silk, embroidered in silver, to match the train; large velvet hats, lined with pink satin, with long ostrich feathers on one side, the other turned up, at the point a rosette of pearl-embroidered lace, and a silver true lover's-knot.

Aprons of large hats and feathers, they are again to the fore, and glad we are to record this fact, as they are a great improvement upon the small edifices, without any back to speak of, which are so irritating to sit behind or follow. Extremely high, pointed hats of the Mother Shipton type are and will continue to be worn by the few whom they become, and the many whom they disfigure, but their reign is nearly at an end.

Bonnets for the spring are very dainty and fragile combinations of gold and silver lace, fancy lace, straw, and ribbons. As to their shapes, no pen can describe them; they are quite à volonté, and, with a pretty face, these "airy nothings" are very pretty, whilst in the background are more sober and suitable specimens of millinery skill for the middle-aged and elderly matrons.

Of spring mantles we cannot say anything this month, but there is little or no chance of needing them before our next issue; suffice it to say that they promise to be small, and elaborately trimmed with lace, jet, and embroidery. For the present a small, tailor-made jacket of cloth, plush, or velvet is quite sufficient.



It is with curious feelings that one turns the leaves of the "Emperor William: The Life of a Great King and Good Man" (Ward and Downey). If ever there were an excuse for trite moralising, here it is. The book is the work of Dr. G. L. M. Strauss, well and widely known as "The Old Bohemian." He was a man of many experiences in all parts of the world. He was the *doyen* of the Savage Club; a man of picturesque appearance, curious knowledge, and amiable manners; a man whose memory carried him back very far; a man who had seen much and knew many men. His book was published before the death of the late German Emperor, and was written when he had himself passed his eightieth year. An octogenarian was writing about a nonagenarian; and the octogenarian was the first to die. In writing of Dr. Strauss's book, therefore, we write with the reserve which it is but fit to exercise towards the work of a man but recently dead; though, in truth, the hardest critic could not find very hard words to apply to so open and frank a piece of work as this. It is a bright and characteristic work; by no means deep, not at all philosophical, and curiously defective in point of style. "The Old Bohemian" was an indiscriminate admirer of the late Emperor, and he belauded him in a curious hybrid tongue which is almost more German in its construction than it is English. As a faithful guide to recent European history, no one could accept the book. It is full of honest prejudice. It is characteristic and instructive, bigoted and amusing, clever and untrustworthy, and it has, moreover, a pathetic interest, now that both the author and subject are beyond the reach of human voices either for praise or blame.

Dr. Henry Landsell has done well to publish a popular edition of his large work on "Russian Central Asia." The new book is called "Through Central Asia" (Sampson Low), and it is a reprint of the original work, with certain chapters and notes omitted. As we reviewed the original work on its first appearance, there is no need to dwell upon it now. The chief value of the new work lies in its ample appendix, which deals with the question of the delimitation of the Russo-Afghan frontier. Dr. Landsell has carefully studied the Blue Books, and his appendix contains the clearest and most unbiased statement of the negotiations and their results which is anywhere to be had. We do not always agree with Dr. Landsell in his political views, and in some of his public controversies he has showed himself scarcely master of his facts. But in publishing this popular edition of his careful book, and particularly in compiling the appendix, he has done a real service to the public. It is of vital importance that England and Russia should understand each other, and here are the materials from which the question may be studied at first hand. The book is profusely illustrated both with maps and woodcuts of people and places.

A pleasant but too ambitious little book is "Our Sentimental Journey," by Joseph and Elizabeth Robins Pennell (Longmans). Mr. Joseph Pennell is an American artist now well known in this country. He has a pretty knack of drawing in pen and ink, and his sketches are delicate and clever bits of work. His wife is as clever in her way; and, together, they have produced some original and by no means indifferent work—the husband illustrating the wife's books. This is all very well and delightful when the proper limits are observed, and when the lady writes in her own person. But even Mrs. Pennell, clever though she be, is not equal to writing in the manner of Sterne. With her husband, she travelled on a tandem tricycle through France and Italy, and had she described her experiences in her own English, no doubt the book would have been as enjoyable as was her "Canterbury Pilgrimage"—a slight but graceful work. But Mrs. Pennell must needs fall to imitating Sterne, who is inimitable; she must write in eighteenth-century English and affect eighteenth-century habits of thought; and all this becomes a little hollow and absurd. When Mrs. Pennell writes in her own manner, she is very pleasing and womanly. The book is a specimen of dainty workmanship, both in binding and printing, and Mr. Pennell's illustrations are, as always, pretty and piquant.

In "Elizabeth Gilbert, and Her Work for the Blind," by Frances Martin (Macmillan), we have the story of a very noble life. Elizabeth Margaretta Maria Gilbert was the daughter of Dr. Gilbert, first Principal of Brasenose College, Oxford, and afterwards Bishop of Chichester. She was born in full possession of her eyesight, but at the age of three years was attacked with scarlet fever. When the fever left her she was quite blind. Her parents wisely determined that she should nevertheless be brought up as far as possible exactly in the same way as her seeing sisters. Elizabeth Gilbert proved to be a woman of much intellectual capacity. At twenty she could understand Italian, French, and German, and her general education was remarkably good. About this time she began

seriously to consider the position of the blind, and set herself to work for their improvement. She studied every means of alleviating the lot of the sightless, corresponded with other blind persons, and at last hired a cellar for the sale of the work of seven blind men who worked at their own homes. The undertaking developed so rapidly that a new house had soon to be taken, and the "Association for Promoting the General Welfare of the Blind" was the result. Miss Martin gives a most interesting account of the development of Miss Gilbert's work, which we have not space to recapitulate here. The work contains also many letters written by Miss Gilbert to her friends. Altogether it is a book of deep interest.

"The Russia's Hope; or, Britannia No Longer Rules the Waves" (Chapman and Hall) is a book of the same class as "The Battle of Dorking." It is translated from the original Russian by Charles James Cooke, and has a preface by Mr. W. Beatty-Kingston. The *Russia's Hope* is a cruiser steaming sixteen knots an hour, and carrying eight-inch guns. War with England breaks out, and the *Russia's Hope* is let loose upon our commerce. She does incalculable mischief, being swift enough to outsteam and capture our merchant vessels, and swift enough also to escape from engaging with heavily-armed ironclads. The exploits of the *Alabama* became insignificant compared with those of the *Russia's Hope*. The book is said to be the work of a Russian naval officer of high rank. It is ably conceived, and it is written with seeming sincerity. It is certainly written in no friendly spirit towards England. The object of the book is evidently to impress upon the Russian naval authorities the paramount importance of building more swift cruisers, and the great popular success which the book has achieved in Russia is a somewhat painful indication of the state of Russian feeling towards this country.

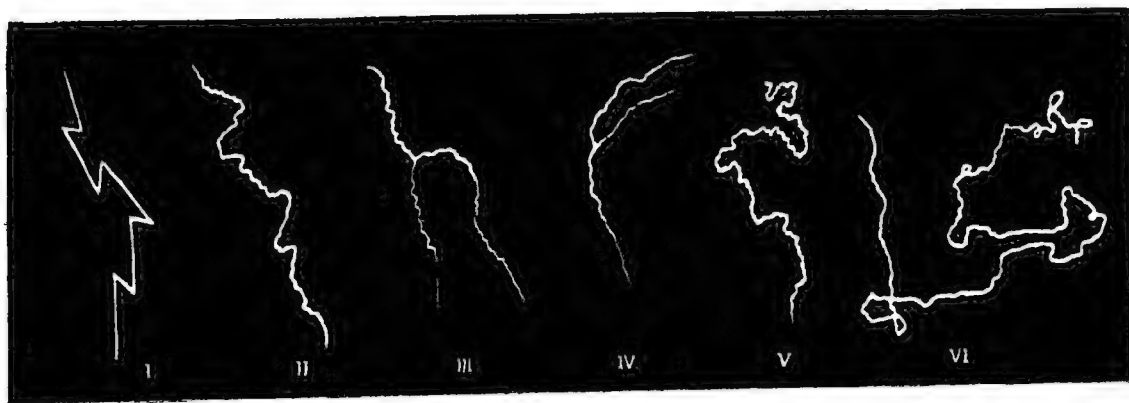
The "Great Writers" Series (Walter Scott) is enriched by two new volumes: "Sir Walter Scott" by Charles Duke Yonge, and "Burns" by Professor Stuart Blackie. Professor Blackie's volume is a well-considered and able piece of work, written with great vigour and clearness, and dealing with all requisite sympathy with the life of the great poet. Those who have read Professor Blackie's defence of the love affairs of Goethe will not expect to find him a harsh judge of the love affairs of Burns; and he treats the difficult subject in what appears to us just the right spirit. The book gives a valuable, and we believe, in the main, a just picture of Robert Burns. Mr. Yonge's book on Scott is satisfactory

to look for it, and what especial features afford opportunities for further search. The book cannot be too strongly recommended to all who possess a telescope of moderate power. The same publishers also send Part I. of "Old and New Astronomy," by Mr. R. A. Proctor, which begins the history of the science with illustrated description of the early Egyptian and Indian methods of observing the stars. The work is to be completed in twelve monthly parts, and will doubtless be of value to the astronomical student.

NOTE.—In noticing Mr. James John Hissey's book, "A Holiday on the Road" (R. Bentley and Son), in our issue of March 17th, the reviewer inadvertently omitted to call attention to the illustrations from drawings by the author, which, to the number of nearly fifty, are scattered throughout its pages, and which, in a book that tells the story of "A Cruise upon Wheels" in three such picturesque counties as Kent, Surrey, and Sussex, add undeniably to the attractiveness of the literary portion of the work.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES

THE ninth Annual Exhibition of the Royal Meteorological Society, which was opened to the public last week at Westminster, was of more than usual interest. It included not only a number of instruments, new and obsolete, principally connected with atmospheric electricity, but also a large number of photographs of clouds, lightning-flashes, and of objects damaged by lightning. A few months ago this Society pointed out in a circular how the amateur photographers, who are found in such numbers all over the country, could help in a good work by taking pictures of lightning-flashes, in the hope that a comparison of these pictures would afford some addition to our knowledge of the phenomena of thunderstorms. These pictures are the result of that appeal, and very interesting and curious they are. They come from nearly every part of the world, and exhibit every variety of form except the stereotyped flash which artists have depicted from time immemorial. These photographs of lightning have only become possible since gelatine plates, with their intense rapidity, have been at the disposal of photographers. But it is fair to state, that so long ago as the year 1856, Mr. James Nasmyth, F.R.S., pointed out how untrue to nature the conventional lightning drawn by artists really was, and supported his argument by diagrams. These were shown in the exhibition, and



though not brilliant. Little can be added to what Lockhart has told us of Scott; but Mr. Yonge is accurate in his facts and methodical in his arrangement of them. Both these books have the usual excellent bibliographies, compiled by Mr. Anderson, which have so largely added to the value of the series.

Messrs. C. W. Deacon and Co. have issued three volumes, which together form a sketch of universal history. Volume I., on "Ancient History," is by Professor G. Rawlinson; Volume II., on "Mediæval History," by Professor G. T. Stokes, of Dublin; and Volume III., which is more than twice the size of the others, and deals with "Modern History," is by Professor Arthur St George Patton. There is also a volume entitled "A Sketch of Geological History," by Professor Edward Hull. The scheme is a very ambitious one, and it cannot truly be said that it is carried out with conspicuous success. The scale on which the works are planned is not large enough to allow the authors to give anything more than the mere skeleton of history, and history cannot satisfactorily be learned from records of dry facts. Each writer has obviously done his best, and the books are all models of lucid condensation. Professor Patton, having twice the space of his colleagues, has been able to do better work; but even in this case the ludicrous disproportion between the enormous mass of material to be dealt with and the space in which to manage it, is only too obvious. The books are of compact size, and are well printed.

With all our reputation for being, *par excellence*, a horsey people, we have no book on that important subject which appears to us so complete and daintily illustrated as "Les Hommes de Cheval," by Baron de Vaux (J. Rothschild, Paris). As it comprises "Les Grands Maîtres," "Les Cavaliers," and "Les Steeple Chasers," it will be found as interesting to the frequenters of our own Rotten Row as to the *habitués* of the Bois de Boulogne.

Mr. Walter Besant's "Sixty Years Ago," which originally appeared last year as one of our Jubilee Extra Numbers, has been published in book-form by Messrs. Chatto and Windus. With the characteristic illustrations, it makes both a handsome and a very attractive volume. For Mr. Besant, though not old enough to have any personal memories of the year 1837, has worked up the subject with his accustomed energy and industry. The young will read it with pleasure, as affording them a vivid glimpse into an epoch which, as far as actual experience goes, is as remote to them as the days before the Deluge; while the old will peruse with a mixture of curiosity and regret the chronicles of a time when they possessed the inestimable blessing of youth. To them probably 1837, with all its shortcomings, seems a cheerfuller date than 1888.

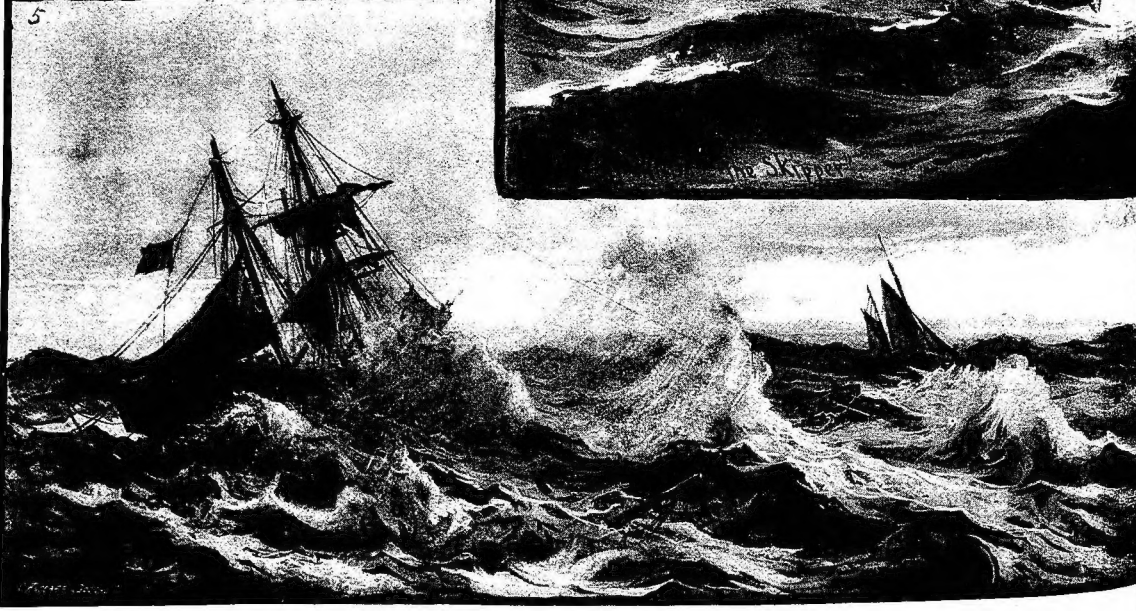
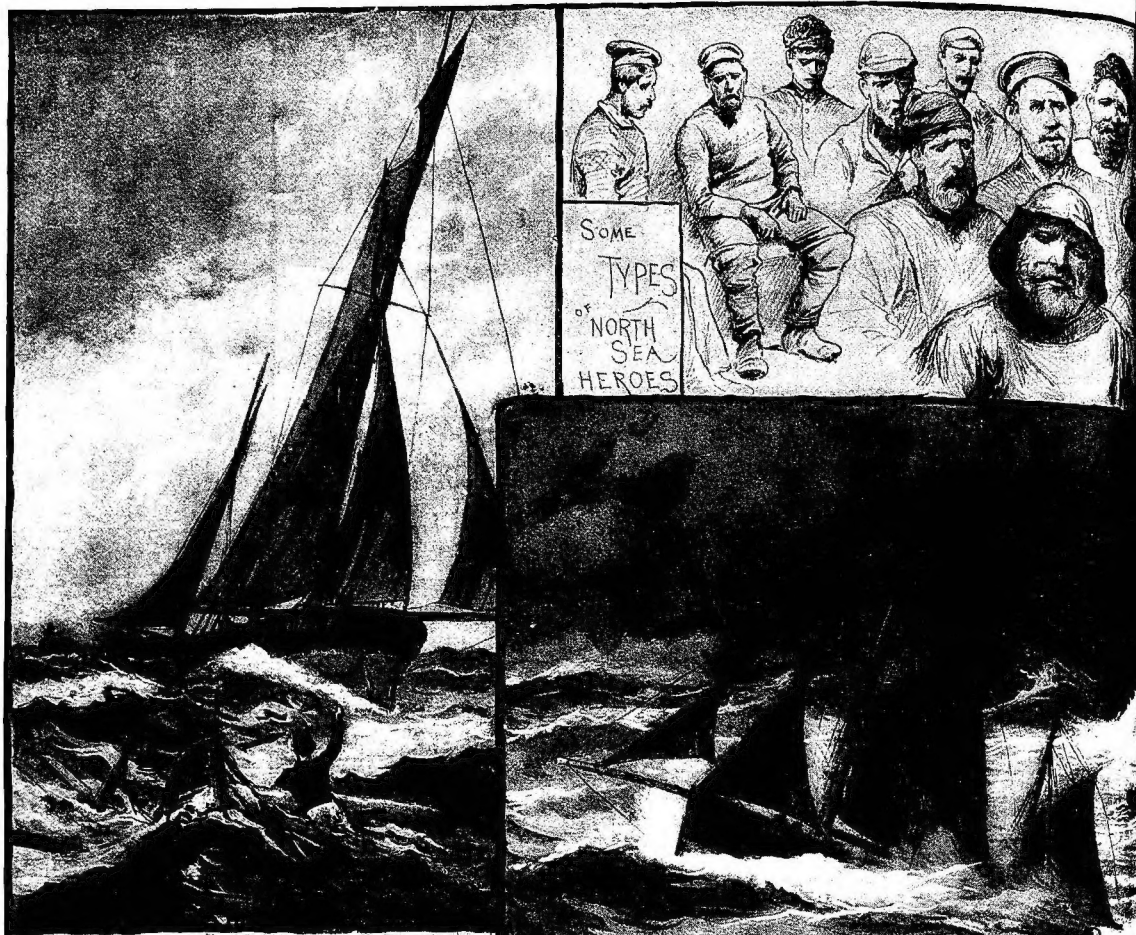
Non-professional astronomers will be interested in and learn much from "Astronomy for Amateurs" (Longmans and Co.). This handy work is edited by Mr. John A. Westwood Oliver, and contains articles by some of the first authorities of the day upon the sun, moon, and planets, double and coloured stars, comets, and other fields for telescopic research. The book does not include what may be termed the rudiments of astronomy—the readers are presumed to have these by heart; as also to have acquired such knowledge with regard to the manipulation of instruments as may be gathered from Captain Noble's admirable "Hours with a Three-Inch Telescope," or Mr. R. A. Proctor's "Half-Hours with the Telescope." Those amateurs who have mastered these elementary facts will derive great benefit from Mr. Oliver's work, which tells them in plain, straightforward language how best to turn their instruments and their thirst for astronomical observation to advantage. The chapter on the moon is an admirable sample of the whole work—thoroughly practical—telling the observer what to look for, where

we reproduce them in Fig. 1 and Fig. 2. The first is entitled "Painter's lightning," and the second "Nature's lightning." On comparing this second diagram with the photographs hung round the exhibition room, it became evident how true a representation this is. The other diagrams which we give are copied from these photographs. No. 3 is a flash which occurred at Tynemouth in 1884, No. 4 was taken at Ramsgate in 1886, No. 5 at Bournemouth during the same year, and No. 6 is a relic of the last great thunderstorm in August, 1887, which was taken in South London. Other lightning pictures in the exhibition show some peculiarities which it is difficult to explain. Two pictures exhibit the streak of light as a horizontal line right across the field of view; but while one of these is a sinuous line, the other is almost straight. Another flash is accompanied throughout its length with a barely perceptible dark companion line. This, we fancy, may be due to a reflection from the back of the plate, coupled with a well-known photographic phenomenon called "reversal of the image." Other flashes, again, have an indistinct curtain attached to them, which seems hardly to be explained satisfactorily by a movement of the apparatus whilst the flash was taking place. The collection of so-called "thunderbolts," in the shape of lumps of stone, coal, and furnace-clinker, will do something towards dispelling the common idea that a lightning-flash is often accompanied by the fall of a solid substance.

Those who have visited the neighbourhood of alkali works will know that they are generally surrounded by evil-smelling heaps of refuse, which not only poison the atmosphere, but work similar destruction upon any rivers or water-ways which may be within their reach. This waste material owes its noxious qualities to the presence of that gas which is known as sulphuretted hydrogen, and which is generally identified with the odour of rotten eggs. Mr. Alexander Chance, of Birmingham, has recently worked out a process for not only doing away with this terrible nuisance, but of recovering sulphur from the refuse, and so turning a waste product into a source of profitable labour. We have not space to describe the various mechanical details of this process; but it will be sufficient to say that it can be conducted at comparatively slight cost, and that the value of the sulphur recovered, either in the form of brimstone or that of sulphuric acid, will far outbalance that cost; indeed it is not too much to say, that by this revolution in the alkali trade, it is quite possible that Britain may become a sulphur-exporting country. At present, the sulphur required for our manufacturing processes, which amounts to many thousands of tons per annum, is procured from copper pyrites which are imported for the purpose.

It will be remembered that, in May last, a terrible explosion occurred at Udstone Colliery, whereby a number of lives were lost. The Inspector of Mines has just published his report upon this disaster. He believes that it was due to a shot fired surreptitiously before the mine had been examined to ascertain whether gas was present or not. By this shot gas was probably ignited, and this initial explosion raised a cloud of coal dust which subsequently took fire. Almost at the same time as this report is published, comes an account of some recent experiments with a new explosive which is said to be perfectly flameless, the use of which, therefore, would preclude any possibility of gas igniting by shot-firing. This explosive is a variety of that compound belonging to the class of high explosives which is known as "securite." It is rendered flameless by the addition, in certain proportions, of a chemical salt. Its cost is less than that of dynamite, while its efficiency is quite equal to that explosive. The experiments showed that, protected in the manner named, it can be actually ignited without any danger of it





1. RESCUE OF A SOLITARY SURVIVOR FROM A WRECK ON WINTERTON RIDGE
2. RESCUING THE CREW OF A FOUNDERING COLLIER IN THE NORTH SEA
3. A SMACK DISMASTED AND ON HER BEAM ENDS. BOAT FROM ANOTHER SMACK RESCUING THE CREW

4. CABIN OF A SMACK ON HER BEAM ENDS. WATER IN BUCKETS AND HANDING TO THE COOK ON THE LADDER
5. RESCUING THE CREW OF A SCHOONER ON HAPPSBURGH (HAPPSBURGH) SAND

6. SWAMPED AND DROWNED IN THE ATTEMPT TO RESCUE A DROWNING MAN, ALSO LOST
7. FROM DEATH TO LIFE—A RESCUED MAN BEFORE THE CABIN STOVE

# DEEDS OF "DERRING-DO" BY OUR NORTH SEA FISHERMEN

BY "THE SKIPPER"



exploding. It can, on the other hand, be made to exert its full power upon being fired with a detonating fuse in the usual manner, but, at the same time, its explosion is unaccompanied by any flash.

At the recent Colonies Exhibition at South Kensington a tramcar was exhibited which was driven up and down the grounds for a short distance by means of compressed air. Its motor, which forms part of the car, is known as the Mekarski Air Engine, and its action was found so satisfactory in every way that the system has been adopted upon one of our tramway lines in the north of London. The line is about two miles long, and one charge of compressed air, received at the starting-station, is found to be sufficient to take the tramcar to its destination and back again. In appearance the car resembles the ordinary horse cars. It can be started and stopped with the greatest ease, and can be worked more cheaply than horse traction, although forage is at present at an unusually low price. Any system of traction which will relieve horses from the terribly hard work of tramcar-drawing will be welcomed by all.

Mr. A. E. Allen, the Borough Analyst of Sheffield, in a lecture upon the lead-poisoning from contaminated water which has occurred in that town for some months, gave some valuable information regarding the manner in which water could be freed from the salts of that metal by filtration. The apparatus employed should be one in which animal charcoal is the filtering-medium, for that substance consists largely of phosphate of lime, which intercepts the lead, and converts it to an insoluble form. He stated, in proof of this change, that animal charcoal, which has for some time been used for filtering lead-impregnated water, turns white from the formation of insoluble phosphate. He showed, by experiment, that the charcoal acted as he described.

Dr. F. W. Chapin has invented a refrigerator for use in the hospital department of an army on active service. It depends for its efficiency upon the action of a well-known freezing agent, nitrate of ammonia, which salt quickly lowers the temperature of water in which it is placed, and can be readily converted again into the form of crystals by evaporation, so as to be serviceable over and over again. Dr. Chapin's apparatus consists of two collapsible india-rubber pails, one of which contains a coil of tubing, in which the water to be cooled is caused to circulate. This coil is surrounded by the freezing-mixture, the other bucket being used to collect the water submitted to its action. The apparatus is compact, and will lower the temperature of several gallons of water per hour. It will also produce ice if required. We need hardly point out what a boon this contrivance would represent to the sick or wounded.

T. C. H.

## RECENT POETRY AND VERSE

IT must be matter for grave doubt how far it was wise at a juncture like the present to publish such a work as "Robert Emmet: A Tragedy in Irish History," by Joseph J. C. Clarke (G. P. Putnam's Sons); however, the play is not likely to do much harm, for, though evenly written, it has no flashes of enthusiasm such as are calculated to influence the hearts of the people. The story is adhered to pretty closely, and, of course, poor Sarah Curran is the heroine, whilst the facsimile portraits of the unfortunate patriot are both interesting and valuable. The American origin of the work is obvious; Lord Wycombe speaks of Emmet's brother by both his Christian names, whilst the footman,—who was, presumably, not a Quaker,—announces him as "Robert Emmet" *tout court*. Did it occur to the author that a speech like the following, put into his hero's mouth, might cut both ways? viz., "What senseless bloody brutes they are that war on women thus!"

There is much to please in "Cæsar Borgia: A Tragedy; and Other Poems," by W. Evans, B.A. (W. Maxwell). The chief piece, though not adhering staunchly to history, has some striking situations and passages, notably Cæsar's soliloquy during the murder of the Duke of Candia; but the author must be more careful in his blank verse, which is faulty at times. It is not apparent why he altered the name of Alexander VI.'s mistress, which, as everybody knows, was Rosa Vanozza;—perhaps his printer objected to the letter Z. He does rather more justice than usual to the unfortunate Lucrezia; though, in spite of all historical evidence, he seems still to give some credit to Sannazaro's vile calumny. The comedy, "A Fair Reward," is nicely written, but rather immature, and the tone too modern throughout; of the minor pieces we prefer "Antigone," which has a good deal of vigour, "Maidenhood," and "Love and Grief." We think Mr. Evans has some genuine dramatic talent.

We have also to acknowledge from Mr. Walter Scott ("Canterbury Poets Series") "The Poetical Works of Thomas Moore (selected)," edited, with an introduction, by John Dorrian; and from the Nation Office, Dublin, "Prison Poems, or Essays of Tullamore," by T. D. Sullivan, M.P.—a striking instance of misapplied talent.



A CLEVER, daring, and reasonably cultured man passing from London coiner to provincial magnate as occasion requires—such is the leading idea which Mr. Francillon has worked out with his accustomed ingenuity in "King or Knave?" (3 vols.: Chatto and Windus). As usual, he calls upon his readers to give full rein to their imaginations; it is the governing condition of his contract to provide them with three volumes which shall never be found to fail in interest, from the first page to the last. "Duality of existence—what an absurd conception!" some may say. Not so very absurd after all; most of us are often guilty—unnecessarily, perhaps—of leading double and divergent lives, which only touch for a moment now and again. The business man, the lawyer, the doctor, we might almost say the clergyman, possess both professional and non-professional individualities; the closed heart and the closed hand frequently become released as if by magic when the cares of business are banished for social enjoyment. Mr. Francillon certainly carries the theory of duality very much farther than this. His hero is, at one and the same time, a great man thoroughly deserving the gladly-rendered homage of his fellow-citizens, and a great rascal thoroughly deserving hanging. Yet so deftly are these two antagonistic characters intertwined that the reader forgets the improbability, if there be any, of such hybrid humanity. Were the author even to boldly deny this alleged defect of improbability, he might make out a strong case from quite recent history. Did not Peace lead a dual existence—the kind-hearted, violin-playing *virtuoso* in society, the murderous burglar by profession? Was not Wainwright, the murderer, most liberal in his benefactions to his parish, and did he not bear an excellent humanity about him until that other criminal existence came to be revealed? Then, too, there was the austere merchant of Kensington Palace Gardens who disappeared one fine day, leaving a gigantic structure of fraud behind him; and there was the light-hearted and sporting financier of Lancaster Gate who swindled his own cook out of her savings; and later back, there was the pious and philanthropic banker whose professional life was tainted with systematic robbery. Such

types of humanity may not be common, but it is not the business of the novelist to confine himself to the commonplace, unless he also desires to restrict the reading of his books to that class. The chief requirement of the average novel-reader is to be interested, and there will be few to make complaint of "King or Knave?" in that respect. But its claim to rank as a work of art rests on higher grounds. Without any of those psychological disquisitions and analyses which are so wearisome in many modern novels, the author contrives to make us feel that the duality which characterised the careers of Colley, and Lizardi, and Paul, did not rest on hypocrisy. Amazing as it may seem, it is undoubtedly possible for some people to divest themselves of one nature and clothe themselves with another at will. In Mr. Francillon's hero there is not a touch of insincerity or humbug; he is as real when planning the future greatness of the town which idolises him, as when plotting the last and greatest of his many crimes. Nor can the reader help feeling a more than sneaking regard for the grand scoundrel. He might have been a king among men had circumstances favoured him in the earlier part of his career; beaten down by them, he nevertheless managed to make himself a king among knaves. Mr. Francillon is to be congratulated on having created such a perfectly original hero, and still more on the artistic finish which he has imparted to the portrait. In other respects the book is full of merit, the incidents being abundant, the characterisation distinct and strong, the interest unflagging, and the writing a model of good, nervous English.

"Molly's Story: Being a Family History as Related by a Faithful Servant," edited by Frank Merryfield (3 vols.: Ward and Downey), cannot be called interesting as a story, but, as the supposed narrative of an old family retainer, whose quaintnesses give raciness to the style, while she keeps her own personality well in the background, it is cleverly worked out and pleasant to read. There is a genuine ring about its detailed incidents and digressions, into which a little novelty might have been imported with advantage; and the atmosphere of its period—the beginning of the century—is excellently reproduced. The supposed narrator, moreover, has a sense of humour of her own, as well as the old-world peculiarities of her well-nigh extinct class.

It is difficult to say what place there is in the field of fiction for stories like "Virginia Tennant," by the author of "Christina North" (2 vols.: Hurst and Blackett), for it is a novel neither of character nor of incident; the *dramatis personæ* are absolutely commonplace; and their relations to one another could not possibly be supposed to have the faintest interest for an outsider. In short, "Virginia Tennant" is just one of those entirely colourless works about which it is simply impossible to say anything whatever. There are many thousands of such, but, as no doubt they have their circles of readers, it may be worth while to chronicle the addition to their number of one entirely harmless novel the more.

Lack of incident is certainly not among the faults of B. S. Berrington's "The Fortunes of Albert Travers: A Tale of the Eighteenth Century" (1 vol.: W. H. Allen and Co.). It is a good old-fashioned nonsensical romance of mysterious and omnipresent smugglers, violent abductions, rooms with moveable walls, persecuted lovers, suffering innocence, and finally triumphant virtue—virtue so triumphant that all the villains, male and female, undergo a thorough conversion to it before they die in the odour of sanctity, or otherwise pass from the scene. It comes as a sort of surprise to find that the stage-smuggler is not dead yet, and that such stories as Mr. Berrington's are written still. And, exceeding nonsense as it all is, it is impossible to find serious fault with so simple-hearted a reproduction of obsolete absurdities.

The hero of "The Twin Soul: or, The Strange Expressions of Mr. Rameses: a Psychological and Realistic Romance" (2 vols.: Ward and Downey), is a Parsee gentleman, with one hundred and fifty thousand pounds a year, who, the lion of the London marriage market, remembered having been a priest of Isis in the days of the Pharaohs, has all the wisdom of the Egyptians (which, to judge from his conversation, must have been singularly small), and spends his time in doing good, and waiting for his "Twin Soul." Of course he finds her—at the top of Ben Ledi, of all places; but she dies suddenly, almost immediately after marriage, without any reason, and Mr. Rameses is left planning a mausoleum for her which shall surpass the Taj-Mahal. The "Romance" is mainly made up of hazy platitudes upon most things in the universe, with flashes of strong good sense here and there, which make the work worth skimming.



MESSRS. ELTON AND CO.—Three songs, with harmonium *obligato* accompaniments, for which a lasting success may be anticipated, are "Darkness and Light," words by M. E. Garth, music by M. Piccolomini, published in F and in E flat; "Matin Voices," written and composed by G. Clifton Bingham and Theo. Bonheur, published in three keys; and "I Will Guide Thee," words by G. W. Varley, music by George E. Iles, also published in three keys.—A spirited song for the barrack-room, and for a popular concert is "Comrades, to Arms," the martial words by Edward Oxenford, music by George Veaco.—A bright little *encore* song is "Another Day," written and composed by Henry Pontet.—Of three pianoforte pieces for the drawing-room by J. Hoffmann, "Consolation," a *morceau*, Chopinesque is the most original; "Miranda Gavotte," and "À La Hongroise," a *morceau de salon*, are easy and playable.—A very promising work is "New Educational Series," edited by J. Hoffmann. It is entitled *The Pianist*, and contains selections from classical and modern composers, a graduated course for the pianoforte student. The editor states in his preface that "it intends to give the teacher and pupil such material as will be most useful at the various stages of piano-playing, saving, at the same time, the trouble of selection. Of sonatas only movements, not extracts, will be given." Book I. contains the earliest rudiments, leading up to easy tunes. In Book II. an advance is made, for we have "Sonatina" (G major), L. von Beethoven; "Allegro from Sonatina; No. II." (G major), Clementi; "Sonatina" (C major) F. Kuhlman, and other well-known pieces. As yet, eight books have appeared, and there are more to follow.—A group of good and effective pieces for the drawing-room consists of "Dance of the Dwarfs," a humorous sketch by Theo. Bonheur, quaint and sprightly as its title would suggest; "Godfrey de Bouillon," a *Marche de Triomphe*, by Leopold de Prins, spirited and stirring; "Queen Mab," an *intermezzo* for the orchestra, arranged for the pianoforte by Siegfried Renn; "Rappelle Toi," an *intermezzo* composed for piano and orchestra, by Mendel Silverstone, of which we have received the smoothly-arranged pianoforte-solo; and "Pavane, a Spanish Dance," by A. Colles, of a dignified type.

MESSRS. ROBERT COCKS AND CO.—"Young and Old," words by the author of "John Halifax, Gentleman," music by Alfred S. Gatty, is replete with a pathos which speaks to the heart.—The late Ciro Pinsuti did his best in a new setting of the beautiful sacred poem, "There is a Green Hill Far Away," which is published in three keys.—A thoroughly comic song which will answer admirably for an *encore*—it will surely be redeemed if sung with due spirit—is "Brother Ambrose," written and composed by F. E. Weatherly,

M.A., and Frederic Bevan.—"Allegrezza" is a sparkling *morceau* for the pianoforte, by Cecile Hartog.—A soothing *berceuse* for the pianoforte is "Songe d'Enfant," by Harvey Lohr.

## THE TARTAN

NO matter in what part of the world they see it, the hearts of all Scotch folk, and of Highlanders particularly, warm to the tartan; but as nowadays it is scarcely convenient for gentlemen to wear it as a part of their everyday garb, Scotch maids and matrons have taken up the cudgels on its behalf, and show their respect for it by having, if possible, in their possession at least one dress and shawl displaying the colours of the clan to which their forefathers might perchance have belonged.

In Scotch towns this partiality for the tartan strikes a stranger, and in Glasgow, to which, be it known, many lads and lasses from the Western Isles and glens annually migrate, Max O'Rell seems to have seen it everywhere, and of it in "Friend Macdonald" he writes:—

"The uses of this tartan are multiple. It is as useful to the women of the lower classes in the larger Scotch towns as the reindeer is to the Laplander. This tartan serves as a hood when it is cold, as an umbrella when it rains, as a blanket in winter, and a mattress in summer, as a basket when they go to market, a towel when they do their dry-polishing, or a cradle in which they carry their babies Hottentot fashion."

For thus spreading the story of the base uses to which their beloved tartan may be put, Scotch ladies certainly do not bless him, for indeed they love their tartan, and, however Radical may be the nature of their political opinions, they are Conservative enough to continue to admire the tartan of their forefathers, and for it they claim a hoary antiquity.

If it were not fashionable in the days when "wild in the wood the noble savage ran" its designer must even then have been at work, as some historians assert that it was in use at the Court of Malcolm Canmore, whither it had been brought by Margaret, the gentle sister of Edgar the Atheling. But a Sassenach origin of the tartan cannot of course be accepted by Scotch folk.

In any case it must have been fashionable towards the end of the fifteenth century, as we find that James III.'s Treasurer paid a guinea and a-half for "Ane elne and ane-half of blue tartane to lyne his gown of cloth of gold." And when James V. went to the Highlands on a hunting expedition in 1533 he gave, as many a Nimrod has since done, full particulars regarding the dress he must wear, a part of which was to be made of three ells "Heland tartane sockis to the Kinges grace"—the whole costing the magnificent sum of twenty-three pounds. What kind of tartan it was, we have no means of knowing—probably it was the Royal Stewart, if at that time each clan had selected its distinguishing colours. This is, however, improbable as there is no evidence that they possessed any but the most homely dyes made from lichens, for as yet they knew little chemistry, and do not appear to have possessed those paints necessary to give the brilliant hues which in more modern times distinguish the tartans of the Macgregors and the Macnabs from the sombre shades of those claimed by the Mackays and Macfarlanes, between which lay the variously-coloured ones of the other clans—forty-two in all—and which with every coloured thread placed with a nicety which proves that the Highland designer must be an exact mathematician, are now on view in every clan tartan warehouse.

Rather unfortunately John Major, an historian of the sixteenth century, inadvertently shows that these many tartans could scarcely be in vogue in his day, as he says that the Highland gentlemen of his time clothed themselves in a mantle instead of an upper garment, and a skirt dyed with saffron. Probably this was the dress of peace, as a little further on he tells us that the common people rush into battle "clothed in a linen garment manifoldly sewed and painted, or daubed with pitch." Evidently this tartan must from the first have been the inspirer of fierce feelings, and the manner of wearing it must have helped to add fuel to the flame.

In those times the whole dress was composed of one piece of tartan of from four to six yards long and two in width, called the *breacan-feile* (chequered covering). And, as the Highlanders were no exception to Herbert Spencer's rule that ornament always precedes use, they adjusted this long plaid with a view to effect, fastening the upper part on the left shoulder with an immense brooch, bearing the motto of their clan, and arranging the lower part so that it extended to the knee in plaits from the waist, where it was firmly bound by a broad leathern belt. It could not be for the sake of warmth that they loved this simple dress, as a French historian who saw them in it at the close of the sixteenth century says, and truly, that, dressed in this *breacan-feile*, they were coloured rather than clad, but yet wrapped up in it "they suffer the most cruel tempests that blow in the open fields in such sort that in a night of snow they sleep sound." This terrible hardihood seems to have been nothing uncommon in the wearers of the tartan, for it was years after this ere the first step in degeneration was taken by the chief's son who gave great offence to his father by trying to add to his own comfort in the open field by making a pillow of snow! Later still, the second step was taken when the clansmen, before going to sleep on the open heath, dipped the entire *breacan* in the nearest pool, that it might be less pervious to the cold night winds and might also more effectually keep in the heat of their bodies. And yet no one seems to have ever heard of rheumatism and its allied diseases. Even as late as 1745, it was with difficulty that the kilted folk in Prince Charlie's expedition could be prevailed upon to use tents. But since it was enacted that from and after 1st August, 1747, "no man or boy within that part of Great Britain called Scotland shall, on any pretence whatever, put on the clothes commonly called Highland clothes, and that no tartan shall be used for great coats or upper coats," the Highlanders believe in a good ingle and plenty of clothes.

At first it was found hard for those accustomed to the free use of their limbs to be reconciled to the "Sassenach bags," as they called the trousers, and many were the dodges used to evade the Act. Some wore pieces of red, blue, or green cloth suspended petticoat fashion, without a single plait—plaits would make it a kilt, and would bring them within reach of the law. As the Act did not say on which part of their bodies they had to wear the trousers, they sometimes suspended them on their sticks, and carried them over their shoulders. At the trial of one Drummond Macgregor, in 1757, for using the kilt, it was proved that when caught his kilt was stitched up in the middle after the manner of Dutch skippers, and he was acquitted. In 1782 the Act was repealed, but during the thirty-five years it was in force the Highlanders had become habituated to their new dress, and did not find it tend to their general comfort to re-adopt the kilt even in its latest fashion, so that now those who go to the Highlands, and expect to see barefooted and fiery-haired men dressed in tartan kilts, are doomed to as much disappointment as those who expect when they go to Wales to find the women there wear the high hats which they are so often represented as doing.

Britons everywhere, however, still feel proud of their kilted regiments, and gladly acknowledge their valour; Royalty delights to honour them at Osborne and Balmoral but, notwithstanding all this, Highlanders have not in recent years shown any great desire to don any of the regimental tartans, and the consequence is that they now cover the nether limbs of hundreds who have not a drop of Highland blood in their veins. Alas, alas!

A. P.



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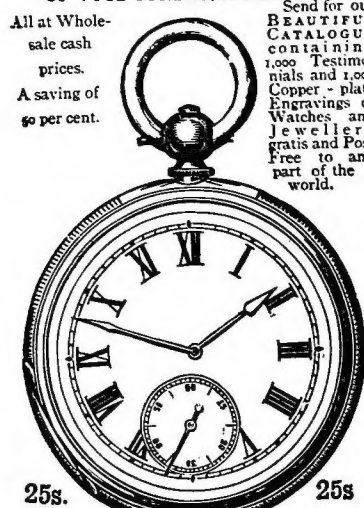
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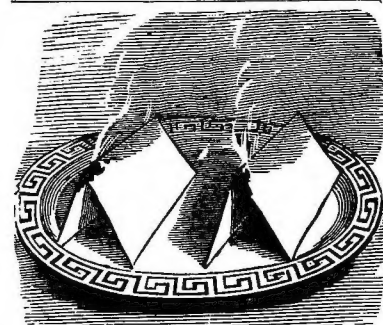
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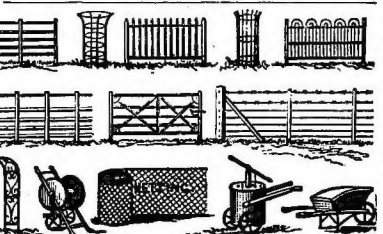
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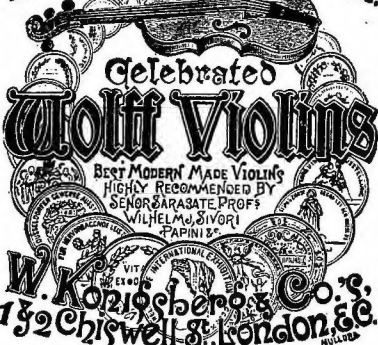
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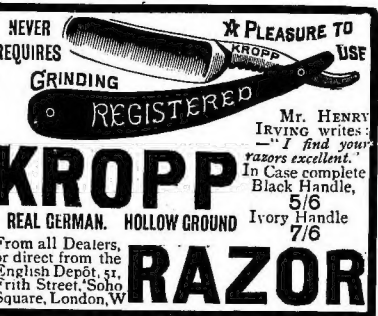
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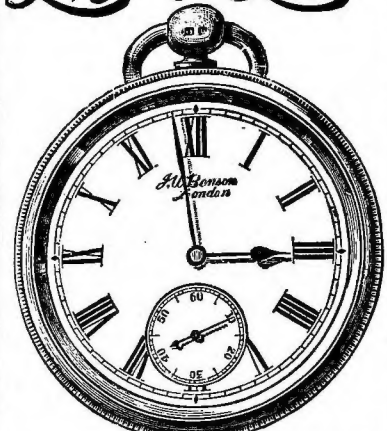
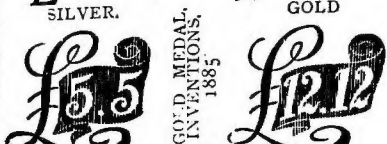


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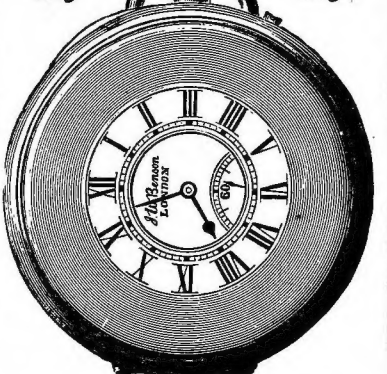


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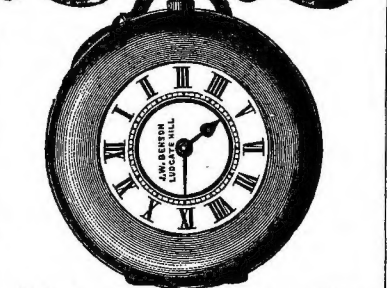


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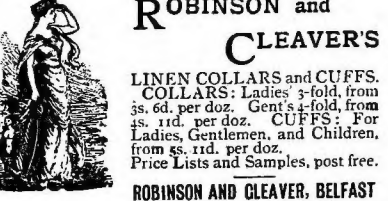


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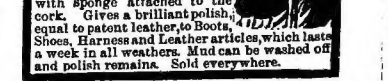
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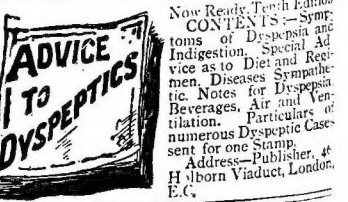
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